

On Monday

Coal in Britain
The NUM conference gets down to business in Perth and Labour Editor Paul Routledge is there to report

Kohl in Moscow
Michael Binyon reporting on the momentous visit of West Germany's Chancellor Helmut Kohl to the Soviet Union

Putting the bite on Pac-Man
Modern Times tries its hand at pub games ancient and modern

The Old Bill's bill
Spectrum examines the ins and outs of legal aid. Part one of a three-part series

Game, set and tournament
Rex Bellamy's last words on Wimbledon 1983

Flying high
A Special Report on Northern Ireland shows an upturn in the aerospace business and tourism

Advance in cancer research

Scientists have identified a substance in the blood, normally used to repair injuries, that may cause the growth of certain cancers. They say the discovery is a significant advance in research that will help in the quest for anti-cancer drugs

US date for Sir Geoffrey

Sir Geoffrey Howe will visit Washington from July 13-15 for talks with Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State. It will be Sir Geoffrey's first visit since becoming Foreign Secretary.

'Think tank'

The Prime Minister is strengthening the number 10 policy unit, her own political 'think tank', although Professor Sir Alan Walters, her economic adviser, is to return to his university post in the United States.

Dam halted

The Australian High Court ruled that the controversial Franklin dam project in Tasmania must stop immediately.

Office go-ahead

The Hay's Wharf office development project on the South Bank in London was approved by the Secretary of State for the Environment.

Price of peace

The PLO is to send a delegation to Damascus to try to end the hostility between its leader, Mr Yasser Arafat, and President Assad. But Syria's price for peace is control of the PLO

Escape foiled

An attempt to snatch South Africa's only woman political prisoner to freedom was foiled in a Johannesburg hospital where she had been taken for treatment

Hunt for killers

More than 100 police officers were hunting the killers of a girl aged 16 and a woman aged 21 in what they say were unconnected attacks in the Peak District

ICI setback

Speculation that ICI was about to announce a massive rights issue knocked £85m off the value of the group's shares on the stock market

Leader page 9

Letters On the death penalty, from Professor J. C. Beckett and others; and Mr John Allott, QC, and others; Pym and unemployment, from Sir David Lane, and Mr Ian Clarke, Docklands, from Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe

Leading articles: Richards vs Richards: Lord Home of the Hirsel. Features, page 8. RIBA's new steel and glass president: conservationists v Conservatives: Banda's Elton in the bush: Lord Rothschild recalls the think tank. Obituary, page 10. Mr Radoyle L. Knežević, Sir John Wrightson

Reagan warning of 'war machine' in Central America

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan has given a warning that a "Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan war machine" was being created to impose communism by force throughout the whole of Central America.

In a tough speech during a Republican Party fund-raising dinner in Long Beach, California, on Thursday the President also accused Libya and the Palestine Liberation Organization of pouring arms into "an enormous war machine" in the region.

Urging swift Congressional approval of his request for increased military aid to El Salvador he said that "or listen to the do-nothings and risk an explosion of violence that will bring real danger to our own borders."

The President's outburst was partly the result of frustration over continued Congressional foot-dragging on the military aid issue, but it also reflected a growing awareness that the nation as a whole appears neither to know nor care about what is happening among its southern neighbours.

According to an opinion poll carried out by The New York Times-CBS News, most Americans do not know which side

the Reagan Administration is backing in either El Salvador or Nicaragua, despite months of highly-publicised controversy over United States policy in Central America.

The findings were in marked contrast to the public's attitudes on foreign affairs before the Vietnam war. Only 25 per cent of those surveyed knew that the US supports the government of President Alvaro Magaña in El Salvador which is fighting against left-wing guerrillas backed by Cuba and Nicaragua. Only 13 per cent were aware that the US is giving covert support to anti-Sandinista rebels - known as "Contras" - who are fighting against the Marxist-inclined government in Nicaragua. Only 8 per cent of those surveyed knew both alignments.

Generally the 8 per cent who know who is backing who in Central America supported negotiations between guerrillas and the present Salvadorean regime even if this resulted in

Communists joining a future government of El Salvador.

The US is strongly opposed to negotiations, believing that they would result in a Communist takeover, but has called for talks between the opposition forces and the Government to discuss participation in elections planned for the end of this year.

The President's speech in California was the second occasion in less than a week that he had used strong language to gain Congressional support for increased military aid to El Salvador and for continued covert backing for the anti-Sandinista Contras.

In his long speech he declared: "We must not turn our backs on our friends. We must not permit dictators to ram communism down the throats of innocent people in one country after another. If we do not get what we asked (Congress) for we will leave the door open to more subversion."

As a further expression of US hostility to Nicaragua, the Reagan Administration has vetoed a proposed \$2.2m (£1.5m) loan by the Inter-American Development Bank to the Sandinista Government.

Whitehall to seek another £5,000m

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Treasury ministers face an uphill struggle to keep public spending to its target next year. Spending departments have yet to complete their bids for the 1984-85 financial year, but it is clear they are likely to ask for a total of £5,000m more than the £126,000 envisaged in February's White Paper.

The White Paper figure would mean Government spending standing still, apart for an allowance for inflation.

The centrepiece of the Government's economic strategy is at stake: its commitment to hold down public spending to make room for significant tax cuts. That commitment was repeated by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, in the Commons on Wednesday. That fact is likely to strengthen Mr Lawson and Mr Peter Rees, his chief secretary, when they go into battle in Cabinet this month. They are certain to have the Prime Minister's support.

The Cabinet will have to agree the broad total for spending next year, before detailed haggling begins in the autumn and the plans are published in November.

Whitehall officials have been talking of a tough time ahead in this year's public spending

review, in which plans are drawn up for the next three years. Last year's review produced figures less than those previously published only because of a sharper than expected fall in inflation, which cut Government spending. The Treasury also built in much smaller margins than usual for unplanned spending.

This time, inflation is likely to be the same or a little higher than the predictions on which the White Paper was based in February. Spending this year appears to be running above its target.

The amount built in to plans for Civil Service pay will be a key factor. Departments are working on the basis of an increase similar to this year's 4.5 per cent. But ministers want to keep settlements to 2 to 3 per cent.

Some excess bids could be accommodated without breaching planned totals by raiding next year's £3,000m unallocated contingency reserve. But Mr Rees will still face a huge task to whittle down the rest of the excess when he begins bargaining with individual departments.

Mr Thomas, aged 74 and a bachelor, became the Speaker in 1976. He retired at the last election.

He said in a BBC radio interview yesterday: "Of course, I am very deeply moved. I'm mixed up. I don't mind telling you, because I am George Thomas of Tonypandy."

"I am very mixed up because my dear mother must be rejoicing in heaven and I know that the people in the valleys will be as happy as I am that one who grew up in great

attack soon after visiting the tomb. Others died of various strokes or cancer.

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Battle over Harrods stepped up

By Philip Robinson

House of Fraser, the Scottish store group which owns Harrods, plans to ask for government intervention in its long-running battle with Lorrho, the international trading company.

On Thursday, Lorrho, which owns almost 30 per cent of Fraser, lost the vital shareholder vote to separate Harrods from the rest of the group. Lorrho pledged to fight on.

The battle between the two has run for five years but intensified after Lorrho was barred from making a full takeover bid two years ago. Observers say that Lorrho, unable to control Fraser through the front door, is attempting to run it from the back.

In the all-important vote at Thursday's meeting, Lorrho failed to get the 75 per cent majority to bring about a Harrods demerger, winning the vote by only 67.5 million votes against 64 million.

In an earlier vote on the principle of demerger at the same meeting, it won by 68.3 million votes against 63.4 million.

Fraser directors feel that Lorrho's recent actions breaches promises it made to the Secretary of State for Trade after its takeover bid was vetoed by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Four undertakings given by Lorrho in effect said, that it would do nothing to increase its influence over Fraser directly by buying more shares or indirectly through an associate buying shares.

In the last two months, 7.8 million Fraser shares changed hands. It has emerged that 4.2 million of them were held by overseas investors and they are thought to have increased Lorrho's support.

Mr Paul Spicer, a Lorrho director, said: "We are meeting on Monday to decide what to do next. We reckon there are probably five million or six million more votes which could be persuaded over to our side."

Unseeded Lewis to play McEnroe in final



By Rupert Morris

The unseeded Chris Lewis (above) of New Zealand will meet John McEnroe of the United States in the men's singles final at Wimbledon tomorrow after last night's beating Kevin Curren of South Africa 6-7, 6-4, 7-6, 6-7, 8-6.

It is the first time since 1914 that a New Zealander has reached the final.

McEnroe moved into his fourth consecutive Wimbledon singles final with an impressive 7-6, 6-4, 6-4 victory over Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia.

In the most keenly anticipated match of the tournament

so far McEnroe served and volleyed so well that his powerful opponent was always struggling to find a weakness.

On a sunny Centre Court the standard of tennis was outstanding and the fact that the two men are known to dislike each other added to the tension.

Occasional yells from McEnroe spurred him on in the first set and the normally impassive Lendl allowed a smile to flicker across his face as a brilliant wrong-footing volley left the American flat on his back.

After winning the tie-break 7-5 McEnroe broke Lendl's service once in each of the last two sets to win the match.

Both players were in relaxed good humour after the match. Lendl, who on a previous occasion had threatened to aim balls directly at McEnroe, conceded that "he played well and took full advantage of the few opportunities I gave him".

McEnroe said he had been glad that Mrs Margaret Thatcher had been there to see "two conservative guys" playing. He is fond of heavy irony.

Mrs Thatcher at Wimbledon yesterday

Match reports, page 18

Gregory defends memoirs

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Ronald Gregory, former chief constable of West Yorkshire, said last night that he welcomed publication of the internal report into the handling of the Yorkshire Ripper hunt.

Mr Gregory, who has been criticised for writing his memoirs for The Mail on Sunday said in an interview on BBC television news that his intention had been to tell the police side of the investigation.

The report was not published while he was chief constable mainly because the matter was sub judice, he said.

Hongkong talks enter new phase

By Henry Stanhope

Diplomatic Correspondent

Fresh hopes surround the talks with China on the future of Hongkong last night with the news that they would enter a new phase in 10 days time.

Negotiators will start discussing how to ensure the colony's prosperity after what could otherwise be a Chinese takeover on expiry of Britain's lease on the New Territories in 1997.

Sir Edward Youde, Hongkong's governor, will join the talks for the first time when they enter their new more detailed stage on July 12, according to a brief Foreign Office announcement.

It came shortly after Sir Edward flew into London for important consultations with Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe, her new Foreign Secretary.

All nine members of the colony's executive council, which draw up its government policy, will also attend the consultations in Downing Street and the Foreign Office on Monday and Tuesday.

Whitehall sources refused further explanation last night of what looks like a change of gear in the Peking-based talks, at which Sir Percy Cradock, ambassador to China, will continue to represent Britain.

A Foreign Office spokesman did say, however, that the decision to move into a new phase was taken after useful exchanges between the two countries.

Negotiations began after Mrs Thatcher's visit to Peking last September.

Scargill rejects Murray call on political strikes

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Perth

Miners' leaders yesterday spurned the TUC's criticism of "draft political strikes" and went ahead with plans to generate support for industrial action against Government intentions to shut loss-making pits.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, reacted sharply to suggestions from Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, that he was "talking nonsense and creating a bad impression" by urging extra-parliamentary action against ministerial policies.

He said: "Mr Murray would be well advised to direct his attacks towards the Tory Government, who have been devastating our industry and smashing down British industry as a whole. I would remind Mr Murray that the TUC at Congress two years ago voted for extra-parliamentary action - and in essence political strike action - when it decided to oppose Government laws against the unions."

The NUM executive, at its preconference meeting in Perth, yesterday agreed to put a motion to delegates next week calling for a campaign to win the wholehearted support of miners to oppose all pit closures and manpower reductions, and to hold a strike ballot "at a time deemed most appropriate".

That is most likely to be in the autumn, when Mr Ian MacGregor, the new chairman of the National Coal Board, unveils his long-term plans for cutting production. About 10 per cent of the industry's capacity is likely to be closed, with the loss of 65,000 jobs.

Mr Scargill added: "I believe that the miners will recognize, sooner or later, that they will have to stand and defend this industry, their jobs, dignity and self-respect."

But some moderate NUM leaders believe that a new strategy on the long-expected reduction in the size of the mining industry is needed, rather than running the risk of a third defeat at the hands of the union's 230,000 members in a secret pithead ballot.

Mr Sidney Vincent, secretary of the Lancashire pitmen, said: "It is bloody silly talking about political strikes. We should be in there talking to the Government and trying to sort something out."

Mr Scargill and his vice-president, Mr Michael McGahay, have had an unpublished meeting with Mr Peter Walker, the new Secretary of State for Energy, which they regarded as a waste of time. "His comments were a complete repudiation of what the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, the Select Committee on Energy and the NCB have said," the NUM president added. "They want to smash this industry and sack 70,000 miners."

Mr Scargill further rejected the view gaining ground in some TUC quarters that the unions should drop their boycott of talks with Mr Norman Tebbit, the Employment Secretary.

"I think it is as daft to suggest that we talk to this Government, who are impervious to logic, as it would have been for people in the Second World War to talk to the Nazis who were streaming through Europe," he argued. The TUC should instead generate "total determination" to oppose Cabinet policies.

The NCB announced yesterday that 240 men at Cardowan colliery, near Glasgow, which it wants to close, have accepted redundancy and up to 200 more are being considered for transfers.

BP puts up petrol price by 8p from Monday

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

A new round of petrol price rises was signalled last night when BP one of the largest producers, announced increases of 8p a gallon from midnight on Sunday. It will mean an average four-star price of £1.87 a gallon.

Total also announced that it would raise prices by 7.8p from midnight Monday. But with the rest of the industry considering its position over the weekend the question was whether the new increase could be made to stick.

The last petrol price increases, only three months ago, mostly of 11p a gallon on four-star, have held.

A price war is being discounted because two factors have changed since last year,

when attempts to push up prices failed.

Then there was an oil glut, since reduced by production cuts by crude oil producers. Spot prices on the Rotterdam market were lower making it possible for cut-price operators to buy on that market and undercut the main producers. Now the spot prices give little or no leeway for this.

Demand is also rising in Britain.

At present, petrol prices are mostly at the 178p-179p level for four-star.

The oil companies say they need 8p increases if subsidies to petrol stations are to be wiped out. BP said the 8p rise would for the first time in years, give it a marginal profit on petrol sales.

Viscounty for Thomas revives a tradition

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr George Thomas, the former Speaker of the House of Commons, is to be made a Viscount, 10 Downing Street confirmed yesterday.

He will be the first former Speaker to receive the hereditary honour in 24 years, although a viscounty was the traditional reward for such Commons service before and after the war.

Mr Shepherd Morrison, the last former Speaker to be created Viscount, became Lord Margdale in 1959. His second and third sons are Conservative MPs.

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He said in a BBC radio interview yesterday: "Of course, I am very deeply moved. I'm mixed up. I don't mind telling you, because I am George Thomas of Tonypandy."

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The strange case of Casimir's curse

From Roger Boyes
Warsaw

Ten years ago the Pope, who was then still Cardinal Karol Wojtyla of Cracow, authorized the opening of the ancient tomb of King Casimir IV so that his remains could be examined by scientists.

Then, with the suspicions and scarcely credible rhythm of an Agatha Christie mystery, visitors to the tomb began to die.

At least 10 eminent scientists, researchers and historians died mysteriously after inspecting the Polish king, housed in the tomb in Wawel Castle for some 500 years.

Inevitably the phenomenon became known as Casimir's curse, a conscious echo of Tutankhamun's curse, which came the death of many archaeologists who visited the Pharaoh's tomb after it was opened in 1922.

Now a Polish historian claims to have found the answer. In a book entitled *Curses, Gerns and Scientists*, Mr Zdzislaw Swiech says he has pinned the blame for the

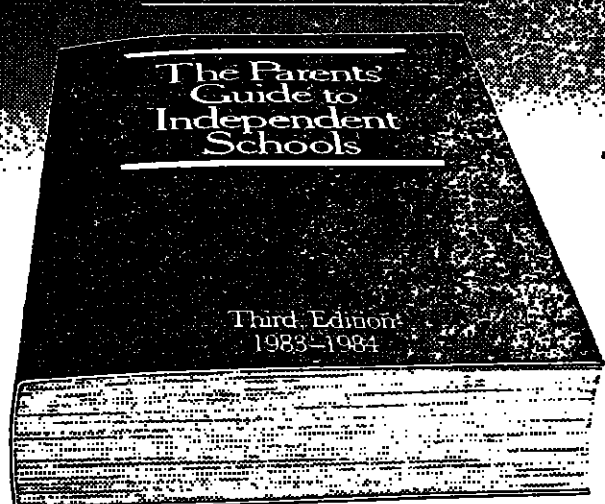
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Wawel Castle, Cracow, for 500 years the resting place of King Casimir - and the microbes.

RECOMMENDED READING FOR PARENTS IN NEED OF EDUCATION



The choice of an independent school for your child is a major decision. It certainly should not be made without consulting The Parents Guide to Independent Schools. This is the essential reference work for anyone planning a child's school career. Here, at your fingertips, are comparative facts on 2,030 schools, both preparatory and public. These range from entry requirements to study details, curricula and exams. From sport and leisure facilities to cost and location - maps are provided. The key issues in choosing a school are discussed. Information is also given on school fees and the best way to meet them. Your child's future is in your hands. This book should be, too. Complete the coupon below, now.

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Jenkin approves South Bank office blocks rejected by inspector

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

The Government yesterday gave planning permission for one of the largest and most controversial inner city development projects in Britain.

The half-mile-long Hay's Wharf site between London Bridge on the south bank of the Thames is to have more than two million square feet of office space developed by a British company supported by the Kuwait Government.

It was the first important planning decision from Mr Patrick Jenkin, the new Secretary of State for the Environment. It had the distinction of containing almost all of the ingredients of Conservative planning policy which are most bitterly criticized by its opponents.

First, permission has been given for almost eight times as much office space as housing on the site in the Borough of Southwark, which has a shortage of housing at low prices and rents.

Second, permission has been given for building on the 24-acre site where an independent inspector ruled in 1981 that proposed office buildings in an earlier version of the plan were too large.

The third and most important ingredient is that ministers have used a legal device of their own making to allow the

revised plan to proceed without submitting it to scrutiny at a public inquiry.

The announcement in the Commons by Sir George Young, a Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, made no mention of the owner, St Martin's Property Corporation, which has owned the site for three years.

Sir George said that permission had been given to the London Docklands Development Corporation, a quango set up by the Government with extensive planning powers over a wide stretch of east London by the Thames. The Hay's Wharf site lies at the western edge of the corporation's territory.

A law of 1980 allows such urban development corporations to ask ministers for approval for development schemes in their areas irrespective of the views of local authorities. Ministers can approve such schemes without submitting them to public inquiries held by independent inspectors.

Sir George said that Hay's Wharf was a site with enormous potential which had "sadly fallen into decay". The approved scheme would bring jobs while bringing historic buildings back into use.

The wharf was founded by

the Hay family in 1651. They and their companies ran it for more than 150 years. An insurance company founded by the family was one of those which merged in the nineteenth century to form the nucleus of today's Commercial Union Group.

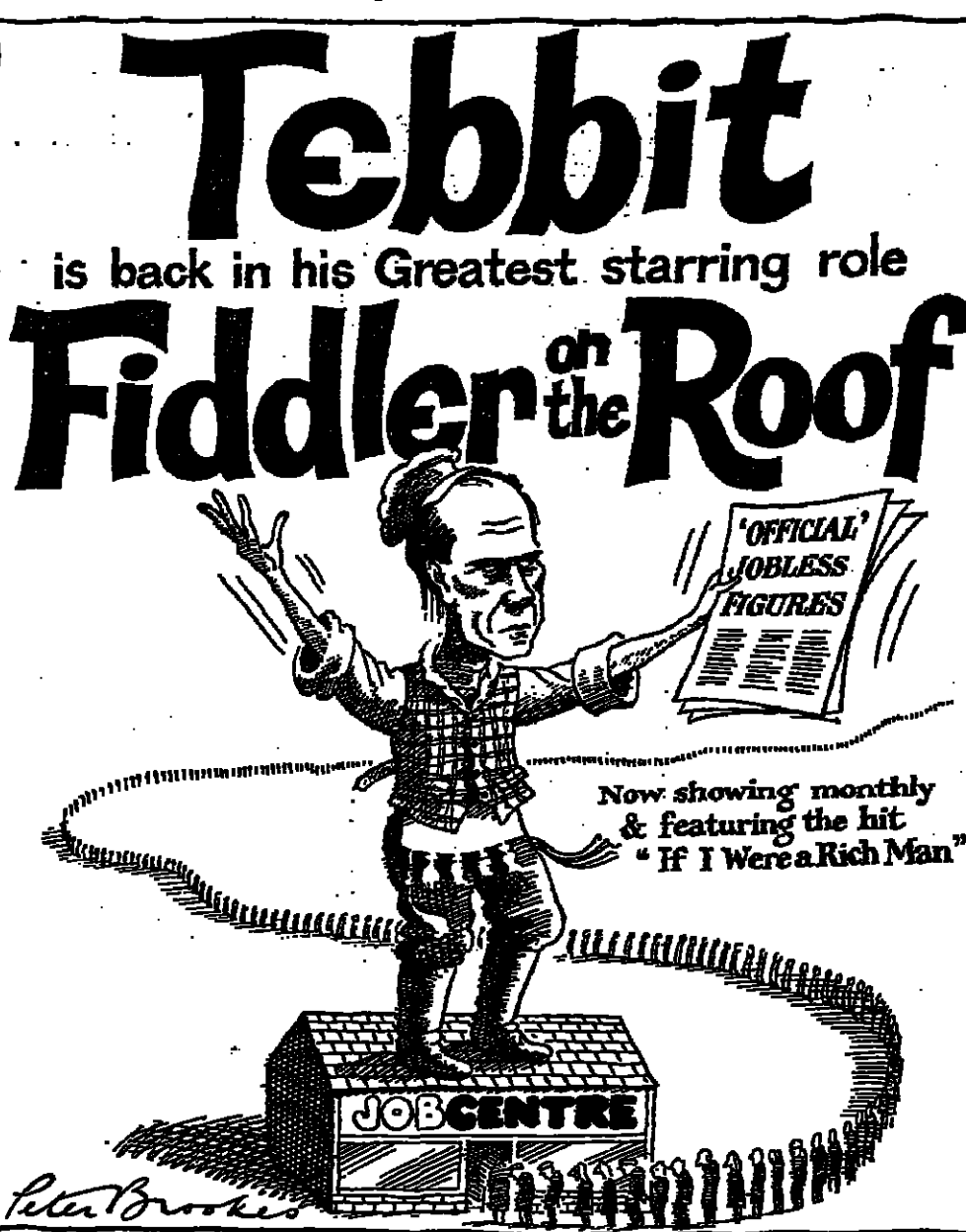
Mr Philip Maynard, the independent inspector at the 1981 inquiry into the original St Martin's plan, advised ministers to reject it because many of the proposed office buildings might block views from the South Bank to St Paul's Cathedral.

The Government rejected his recommendation and favoured the company to revise its plans in consultation with the London Docklands Development Corporation.

Mr Simon Hughes, the Liberal MP whose Southwark Bermondsey constituency included the site, called yesterday's approval "the most undemocratic, unjustified and tragic planning decision made in London in the past 20 years."

Demands by local councils and MPs for a public inquiry had been ignored.

Mr George Nicholson, chairman of the planning committee of the Greater London Council, called the decision "jackboot planning".



Rates warning to councils

By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, yesterday made clear that he would take on Conservative as well as Labour councils in pushing through controversial policies on spending and planning.

He left the annual conference of the Association of District Councils meeting in Scarborough, in no doubt that the Government will countermand any high rates which Conservative-controlled authorities may try to impose.

"The outcry about rates has been confined to the few whose spending has been miles above target," he said, referring to the 18 councils, all Labour, listed by the Conservative Party during the elections as notorious high spenders.

But Mr Jenkin added that all councils had a year's grace in which to prove that they could hold down spending and rates before rates are capped in April 1985. Only persistent high spenders would be controlled, but the Government was taking reserve powers to be used against all councils if necessary.

"I realize that such a power is extremely distasteful to local authorities. Never the less, it is our view that it has become a political imperative," Mr Jenkin said.

In his first public speech to councillors since taking office, Mr Jenkin said that his priority was jobs. Councils could create jobs not by employing more people themselves but by relieving firms of the rates burden and giving planning permission for new factories and premises.

He had a special warning for Conservative councils in the south-east which had been restricting industrial development. "Let there be no doubt that I am determined that all planning authorities should be sympathetic to applications from industry, particularly from small firms."

Tories are 'trapped by obsession'

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock, the leading contender for the Labour leadership, said last night that Government promises of economic growth were based on falsehood and delusion.

While Treasury plans for the economy assumed an annual growth of 2.5 per cent in national output for the next five years, the record showed an annual decline of 0.5 per cent over the past four years. Mr Kinnock said that the Government had not got its estimates wrong because it was unlikely, or because it was blown off course by unforeseeable events.

Mr Kinnock told a meeting of the Cardiff Fabian Society. "They got them wrong because they have the perverse, destructive, and dishonest view that economic growth can come from constantly squeezing public and private industry and the living standards of millions of families and communities."

The Conservatives, he said, were caught in a trap of their own making: their obsession with public spending restraint.

"They set a target for reducing public spending and tax. Then they cut public spending. The economy shrinks. That reduces tax revenue and the Government has to increase borrowing."

Video censorship Bill to be introduced by Tory

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Graham Bright, Conservative MP for Luton South and parliamentary private secretary to the two Home Office ministers, announced last night that he would present a private member's Bill to outlaw pornographic, obscene, and horror video tapes.

The Conservative manifesto promised "specific legislation to deal with the dangerous spread of violent and obscene video cassettes."

But there were no specific proposals in the Queen's Speech and because pressure was building up for prompt action Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, was pleased when Mr Bright came top of the ballot for private member's Bills on Thursday.

Mr Bright said yesterday that he had no comment to make on the details of his Bill, which will undoubtedly be drafted by the Home Office because he is going into hospital for a minor operation on Monday.

Mr Bright will have to resign as parliamentary private secretary, but that is no sacrifice compared with the gratitude that he will earn from Mr Brittan and other ministers who were becoming embarrassed by the growing clamour for action inside and outside the Commons.

Only the first four or five MPs in the ballot have a real chance of getting their measures enacted.

The other front runners are Mr Robert Wareing, Labour, Liverpool-West; Derby; David Price, Conservative, Eastleigh; Mr Alexander Eadie, Labour, Midlothian; and Miss Jo Richardson, Labour, Barking.

representatives of the nationalist minority to set up a new political institution to help to build a new society in Northern Ireland.

Spencer Brendan Tracy, aged 24, unemployed, of Strabane Old Road, Londonderry, was remanded in custody for a week by Londonderry Petty Sessions yesterday charged with murdering Mrs Alice Farver, aged 43, the British Army sergeant's wife who threw herself in front of her husband to save him from gunmen.

The association also urged the Social Democratic and Labour Party and other representatives of the nationalist minority to set up a new political institution to help to build a new society in Northern Ireland.

In a statement issued in Belfast, the association urged the IRA to make use of the political mandate they enjoyed through their political wing, Sinn Féin, and to take their place in the Northern Ireland Assembly.

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BL lorry plant will cut 400 jobs

By Our Labour Staff

More than 400 jobs are to be cut at British Leyland's lorry plant at Bathgate, near Edinburgh, the company said yesterday. The redundancies will reduce the Bathgate workforce, where 196 job losses were announced last year, to 1,900.

In a letter to workers yesterday, the company blamed the world recession and a decline in Bathgate's traditional export markets.

It announced, however, measures which it said showed its commitment to the future of the Bathgate plant. One range of lorries which was to have been discontinued next year will be continued until 1986 at least; a planned transfer of axle manufacture to the Albion plant in Glasgow has been postponed for the present. Engines in joint venture between Leyland and Cummins will be made at Bathgate, and its future for engines and export lorries is confirmed.

Shop stewards' leaders, who had been expecting a redundancy announcement, were shaken by the number of the job losses and are to meet on Monday. Mr Jim Swan, their chairman, said: "It is worse than we thought it would be."

Leyland said that 277 workers would go by the end of September, and a further 125 would be "released" during the rest of this year and early next year. The company still looking for 52 redundancies from the 196 jobs cut announced last year.

In a letter to Bathgate employees yesterday, Mr George Newburn, Leyland's senior representative at Bathgate for industrial relations, said the world recession, a continued worsening of overseas markets, and a fall in oil prices, had combined to close almost entirely many of Bathgate's traditional markets.

"Many countries cannot find cash or cannot find international credit. Therefore, there is no market in which to sell," he said.

In Nigeria, Leyland would sell far fewer this year than the 2,500 lorries exported there in 1981.

Competition from other lorry makers in the few markets that still had finance available was "cut-throat". This year Bathgate would make 4,900 lorries compared with 8,500 last year.

"If we are to have a chance of survival, the business has to be slimmed down to come in line both with the current market available and with the cost structure the business can competitively bear," he said. But Leyland's commitment to Bathgate still stood and the company was determined to survive the "unprecedented recession in our business".

Support among trade unionists for another big confrontation over "washing-up time" at the Cowley assembly plant is weakening, Austin Rover believes, Barrie Clements writes. In a new letter to 5,000 employees, the company states that shop stewards on Thursday voted by only 39 to 36 to go on strike if the company attempts to impose "bell-to-bell work".

Almost 700 workers, mainly women, are to lose their jobs at GEC's telecommunications factory in Hartlepool, Cleveland, because of lack of orders.

Science report

A changing shape in the ball of mirrors

By the Staff of Nature

A two-foot ball of brass covered in mirrors has convinced scientists that the Earth is getting smaller at the equator and longer at the poles as a result of the melting of ice Age glaciers.

The ball is the satellite Lagesos, which circles the Earth once every three and three-quarter hours. Launched from North America in 1976, it is designed to be a kind of measuring rod in the sky: it can be tracked and timed from Earth with extreme precision by means of a laser and an atomic clock. It is the fine details of its orbit that have now revealed the changing girth of the Earth.

The calculations are immensely complicated, because a multitude of different phenomena can affect a satellite's orbit and they can all show up at the extraordinary level of accuracy with which Lagesos's position can be measured. Just how accurate has been shown by an Italian group that detected accelerations of Lagesos from its expected orbit by hundreds of an atomic diameter per second per second - a rate equivalent to a car accelerating from 0 to 60 miles per hour in about one million years.

Now the various factors that affect the orbit, such as the gravitational effects of planetary motions, have been taken into account by Dr Charles Yoder and colleagues from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Pasadena and others from the University of Texas, with independent calculations by Mr David Rubincam of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

They calculate from fluctuations in the Lagesos orbit that the Earth's "quadrupole moment", a measure related to the ratio of equatorial to polar diameter, is decreasing at a rate of around three parts in 100,000 million per year.

This can be accounted for, Dr Yoder and his group say, if the Earth is still slowly recovering from the weight of ice placed at the poles - and high northern and southern latitudes - in the last Ice Age, which ended about 10,000 years ago. Effectively, this mile-high ice sheet squashed the Earth like an orange, albeit by a very tiny amount; and now the ice has gone, the Earth is returning to a more spherical shape. It is estimated that the process will take from 10,000 to 100,000 years because of the treacherous texture of the Earth's interior.

Exactly how treacherous may prove to be one of the most important, though indirect, results of the Lagesos experiments. Motions of the Earth's interior drive continental drift and maintain the Earth's magnetic field but it is very difficult to measure the motions directly. Tracking the Lagesos brass ball over more accurately - and accuracy will improve greatly over the next few years - should provide the tool the geophysicists need.

Source: Nature June 30 (vol. 303, p. 575; 1983).

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Sale Room

Heirlooms star among antique Americana

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

American antiques handed down in the same family for up to 250 years were the star turns of Sotheby's Americana sale in New York on Thursday.

A tremendously grand pair of mahogany card-tables made in New York about 1805 secured a record for furniture of the period at \$275,000 (estimate \$100,000 to \$150,000), or \$174,051.

They are supported by an eagle, with its wings outstretched, perched on the meeting point of the four legs which is further embellished by a lion's mask. Each curved leg is carved with acanthus leaves and ends in a lion's paw foot.

They are attributed to Duncan Phyfe, of New York, and had descended in the Denniston family. The purchaser was Mr Barry Taracy, the former curator of American decorative arts at the Metropolitan Museum and now a dealer.

A Queen Anne inlaid mahogany card-table, made about 1740 for the Faneuil family of Boston, sold for \$148,500 (estimate \$80,000 to \$120,000), or \$93,987. It is one of only four recorded American card-tables retaining their original crewel-work embroidery playing surfaces. It had descended (by marriage) in the Jones family, of Boston.

An American silver coffee pot by John Blowers of Boston, dating about 1730-40 was sold by the same descendant of its original owner, John Jones, Mary Anna Faneuil's husband, at \$51,700 (estimate \$40,000 to \$60,000), or \$32,722 to Levy, a New York dealer.

An extraordinarily complete 68-impliment set of Tiffany chrysanthemum patternable silver of about 1830-90, in a mahogany chest, secured the top price among the silver at \$104,500 (estimate \$50,000 to \$60,000).

Overseas selling prices: American silver coffee pot by John Blowers of Boston, dating about 1730-40 was sold by the same descendant of its original owner, John Jones, Mary Anna Faneuil's husband, at \$51,700 (estimate \$40,000 to \$60,000), or \$32,722 to Levy, a New York dealer.

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Scientists discover how cancer cells can grow out of control

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A milestone in the search for why and how cells in the body become cancerous was announced yesterday by Dr Michael Waterfield, the head of a team at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund's laboratories in London.

The disclosure points to a possible new form of treatment with anti-cancer drugs, but that is still the subject of speculation.

However, yesterday's announcement advances a finding made a year ago, that genes in cells which control normal growth can be modified slightly to stimulate malignant growth.

Fifteen cancer-causing genes, called oncogenes, have subsequently been isolated in human cell lines.

This latest step in unravelling the genetic basis for cancer concerns an oncogene isolated from cells of bone, tendons, ligaments, and brain tissue. Dr Waterfield's team has found that it also stimulates excessive production in the blood of a substance called PDGF.

The letters PDGF stand for platelet-derived growth factor, which is a protein produced by special blood cells to repair injury.

In normal circumstances it is present in large amounts only when the body is repairing injured tissue. The discovery that an oncogene can cause uncontrolled production of PDGF in excessive amounts in connective tissue when no damage exists points to a mechanism of cancer growth.

Dr Waterfield's team is already investigating other human oncogenes for a similar effect.

With an understanding of what makes cancers grow, chemists can try to design drugs that will block the production of PDGF. The method by which that might be achieved is the problem which scientists are now contemplating.

The progress in unravelling the genetic connexion with cancer has surged forward only in the past two years.

Research teams first found that certain viruses caused cancer in animals, and then isolated the offending oncogene from those viruses.

It was only last year that a human cancer gene was isolated from a bladder cancer cell culture and found to produce tumours in rats and mice.

Subsequent research showed that the biochemical difference between a gene controlling normal growth and cancerous growth was negligible.

Dr Waterfield said: "The discovery is a very exciting step forward in our understanding of cancer and has opened up enormous possibilities for cancer research."

"It gives research a tremendous stimulus. Scientists involved in cancer research throughout the world will be swift to exploit its potential."

The work has been done with help from research groups led by Dr Thomas Deuel at Washington University, St Louis, Missouri, and Uppsala University in Sweden.

Dr Waterfield said the discovery was made in May but some work was repeated to confirm the findings. Details are expected to be published in the scientific press next week.

"Other laboratories at the International Cancer Research Fund had been working for several years on the hypothesis that certain cancer cells produced proteins that were similar to certain normal proteins", Dr Waterfield said.

Airline to sell cheap tickets despite ban

By Richard Dowden

The Civil Aviation Authority yesterday stopped what it sees as a transatlantic air fares war by rejecting applications from British Airways and other transatlantic carriers for new fares to America that would have meant savings of up to £100 for a return flight.

The new fares, however, have been published by British Airways and, despite the authority's rejection, will remain on sale until July 11.

The airline said that it would honour those already sold and that, although the brochure said the new fares were subject to government approval, there would be a delay while the authority's ban came into effect.

The airlines may try to arrange another meeting with the authority to get agreement. The authority rejected the applications, which were filed by British Airways, Pan Am, Trans-World Airlines, Air Florida and World Airways, because "it was not satisfied that these fares would produce an adequate return and believe they would lead to a progressive and irrational downward spiral for promotional fares".

The authority approved new apex fares, that need to be booked three weeks in advance, for flights originating in the United States and which begin in the autumn. They will cost 386 return New York to

London, and are being offered by British Airways, Pan Am and TWA.

The return flight under the new fares was £249 to New York, a saving of £80, £269 to Washington, a saving of £60, and £349 to San Francisco, a saving of £100. There was to be no advanced booking and a maximum stay of six months.

British Airways has launched a new "super shuttle" on the London, Manchester, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Belfast routes that will provide hot breakfast for travellers and a free bar service.

The airline said yesterday that that would mean no increase in fares. The guarantee that all passengers who arrive are carried will continue.

In rejecting the application for fare increases, the CAA has confirmed expectations that the cut-price People Express service from Gatwick to Newark, New Jersey, which began in May, would "not be allowed to provoke a panic repeat of the disastrous price war that broke out when Sir Freddie Laker's Skytrain took to the air."

A number of big airlines announced defiantly in May that they would not lower their fares in response to the new £99 service to the United States, and the CAA decision has aborted an apparent attempt to back down from that position.

Royalties on music 'far too low'

By Christopher Warran Arts Correspondent

Only four out of every hundred composers and authors of music receive a royalty income above the minimum wage level in their country, according to the 1983-84 *Performing Right Yearbook*, published yesterday by Britain's Performing Right Society.

That figure refers only to those countries where there are effective performing right societies, about 40 of the 157 member states of the United Nations.

The result was described as an "utterly catastrophic situation" by M Jean-Loup Tournier, president of the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers, which carried out the survey.

He said that the number of authors who could live by their royalties was "shockingly few".

A report in the yearbook blamed a decline in live music presentations and a contraction in the number of discotheques for limiting the *Performing Right Society's* gross public performance collection in Britain and the Irish Republic last year to £13.5m.

After deduction of licensing and administrative costs, the distributable income for the year represented only a 1.9 per cent increase over 1981.

Labour loses anti-hunt cash

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

The League Against Cruel Sports has quietly dropped its five-year-old policy of dedicated financial support for the Labour Party. Its decision was obscured by a pledge in the election campaign from Mr Richard Course, executive director of the league to pay more than £100,000 to the party.

In fact the league spent only about £5,000 on political donations in the campaign, and some of the money went to Liberal candidates. Its policy change was hailed yesterday as a victory by Mr Hugh Simmonds, the husband of a league member who took court action against a league gift of £80,000 to the Labour Party in the 1979 campaign.

Mr Course made his pledge after the court judgment in May

this year that £50,000 of the £80,000 paid in 1979 should be paid back to the league with interest because it had not been reserved solely for publicity about animal welfare.

Mr Course said outside the court in May that the league would pay back to the party the £50,000 and interest on condition that the money was used for animal welfare publicity. He added that the league would pay a further £50,000 in recognition of the party's manifesto commitment to ban hunting.

"I said that because my blood was boiling", Mr Course, a member of the Labour Party, said yesterday. "It was important not to demoralize Labour candidates at that stage in the election."

The case had been brought by

Mrs Janet Simmonds, a member of the league. Her husband, a solicitor, was displaced as Conservative prospective candidate for Cambridgeshire South-West in April when his wife's membership of the league became known.

Mr Course said that the league had paid sums of a few hundred pounds to several Labour and Liberal candidates in the election, a total of about £5,000. The Labour Party had paid back the £50,000 covered by the court judgment, he added. Meanwhile, the league's executive would consider giving money to the Conservative anti-hunt council.

"I think there are at least 40 Tory MPs who are favourably disposed towards us", Mr Course said.

GLC staff will get help with emotional stress

The Greater London Council is to create a new post of chief welfare officer to help staff with emotional stress and to advise on personal problems. (David Walker writes).

The new official and five welfare assistants will also serve the 60,000 teachers employed by the Inner London Education Authority.

The appointments, to be made in the autumn, will cost £130,000 with extra office expenses. The chief officer will be paid between £15,000 and £16,600 a year.

Clore trust fund loses court fight over £4m

Stype Investments (Jersey) Ltd, the trust fund formed by Sir Charles Clore shortly before his death in July 1979, was ordered by the High Court yesterday to hand over £4m with interest and costs, to the Official Solicitor, who has been charged with the task of collecting the assets of Sir Charles's estate.

Stype had not contested its liability to pay the £4m under the terms of a mortgage agreement with Sir Charles over the Stype estate in Wiltshire but

it had sought a stay of execution on any payment found due.

In a reserved judgment, Mr Justice Walton ruled that Stype should pay about £372,000 in interest which has mounted from August last year when the Official Solicitor made his demand. However, he gave Stype leave to dispute the exact amount payable from the date of the agreement in 1979 to the August 1982 demand. Dependent on the rate used, that is estimated to be between £2m and £2.5m.

Press ban on advertising

By a Staff Reporter

The *Daily Telegraph* and the *Daily Mail*, have refused advertisements from Thames Television inviting companies to advertise their annual results on television. They fear the effect on their own advertising rates.

Regulations governing financial advertising on television were relaxed recently by the Independent Broadcasting

Authority and Sainsbury, under the new rules, to give its annual report in a television advertisement.

However other newspapers and journals - *The Sunday Times*, *The Times*, *Sunday Express*, *The Economist* and the *Financial Times*, when it publishes again - have accepted the advertising.

Father and son are killed in tanker blast

Mr Bertie Mason, aged 45, and his son Mark, aged 17, both of Rivergreen, Clifton, Nottingham, were killed yesterday when they were using oxy-acetylene welding equipment on an oil tanker, which exploded.

The force of the explosion was so great that the cab was thrown through the roof of the workshops where the men were working and landed in the compound of an oil company 100 yards away. The two had been carrying out a routine service on the tanker.

The blast, at the drilling and construction company of Forsy in a private road on the Colwick industrial estate, Nottingham, started a fire which was extinguished by 20 firemen. A foreman working near by was taken to the Queen's Medical Centre in Nottingham with internal injuries.

After the blast, which made holes in the asbestos building, the police sealed off the area and evacuated workers from other company premises. The workshops are surrounded by oil storage depots and for a time there was a danger of the flames spreading.

A government factories inspector has begun an investigation.

Mr Mason had been a fitter at the firm for several years.

£50,000 award

Mr John Edwards, aged 60, a thermal insulation worker who contracted asbestosis while working for Kitson's, of Barking, Essex, was awarded £50,000 agreed damages in High Court in London.

Boy's killer 'said he may kill again'

Wayne William Page, aged 17, a labourer, of Drayton, Oxfordshire, who was ordered yesterday to be detained without limit of time under the Mental Health Act for killing a boy aged 12, had told a psychiatrist that he might commit another, similar crime, Birmingham Crown Court was told.

Page was said to have told the police later: "I just did it. These two boys came along; I just got in the way. I just knocked him off his bike. I got hold of him and put him away. I just stabbed him, that's all. Then I just pushed him into the water."

Dr William Mackie, medical officer at Winchester prison, said Page had first been referred to an educational psychiatrist when he was aged seven.

He had a communication problem and felt ostracized by others, with the result that he became impulsive and aggressive. He has told a psychiatrist that he might do it again.

Ian Kelly looked back and

Report criticizes private college for foreigners

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

A private college for foreigners in Malvern, Hereford and Worcestershire, was criticized by the school inspectors (HMI) in a report published yesterday for the shortcomings of its teaching of English.

The inspection of Abbey International College, carried out last November, also found that there were too few resources, particularly in English, and that the needs of students outside the classroom were not being met.

The report on the college, which has 52 students from Asia, Africa and the Middle East, said that the supervision of boys and girls outside school hours was left almost entirely to the housemaster. "This aspect of school management calls for urgent review", the inspectors said.

Senior staff knew the pupils well and took personal responsibility for guiding them, but there was an urgent need to

reinforce form teachers who should work closely with the boarding housemaster and the headmaster, the report said.

"At present there is no one teacher responsible for monitoring each student's academic progress and his or her personal development. It was clear that new students, particularly those with considerable language difficulties, required careful counselling and induction and that some without this were responding in their work in a confused and bewildered manner."

The report said that the quality of spoken English at the college was not as good as it should be because the students could not get the practice.

Report by Her Majesty's Inspectors on Abbey International College: free from the Department of Education and Science, Publications Despatch Centre, Honeyport Lane, Stanmore, Middlesex.

First wheel clamp hearing

The first man to be charged in Britain with removing the Denver boot car wheel clamp as remanded on bail until July 9 by Marlborough Street Magistrates Court, London, yesterday for the police to seek legal representation.

London Lewis, of Battersea, an unemployed former reporter, aged 22, is charged under the Transport Act, 1982, with unlawfully removing an "immobilization device" from his car, and also with stealing the amp, worth £200.

The court clerk advised Mr Lewis that because he was charged under new, untested legislation he too should seek legal representation and, if necessary, apply for legal aid.

Voman leaves 300 to Thatcher

Miss Constance Beale Older, 86, died in March, aged 86, leaving the Prime Minister £300 in her will, published yesterday, as a token of my admiration of her courage in leadership.

Miss Older, of Birchington, Kent, kept an autographed photograph of Mrs Margaret Thatcher beside her hospital bed. She left an estate valued at 9,682 gross, £39,068 net.

Lada check

Owners of nearly 18,000 Russian-made Lada cars are being offered a free brake check, British importers said yesterday. A grease no longer used by Lada may have tampered the master-slave rear seals.

Idnap charge

A second man, William, aged 43, of Stroud, Gloucestershire, appeared before magistrates at Staines, Middlesex, yesterday accused of possessing firearms with intent to kidnap Anthony Woolf, aged 34, of France. Mr Woolf, who appeared on Thursday, has been remanded in custody until Monday.

Resignation points to cutbacks on Channel 4 news programme

By David Hewson

Channel 4's nightly news programme faces its second relaunch since it came on the air eight months ago as a result of the departure of Mr Derrick Mercer, the programme's head of news at ITN, which produces it.

Mr Mercer's resignation, coupled with that of Mr Geoffrey Hodgson, the presenter, has increased speculation that the how-long weekday news programme will become a more conventional 30-minute broadcast.

Channel 4 said last night that the commitment to an hour-long programme remained but refused to detail what changes were being planned.

The news programme was relaunched in early February and appeared to be on the way to bigger audiences, achieving ratings of nearly 700,000. But this figure dropped, and during election week, when ratings should have been strong, it fell on three occasions below 200,000 to levels which are regarded as too small to be

measured. For the week ending May 1, the programme showed a zero rating on every night.

Mr Mercer, who came to Channel 4 from *The Sunday Times* where he was news editor, had been under pressure from some long-serving ITN employees who felt that his position should be occupied by someone with previous television experience.

Channel 4 and Mr David Nicholas, the editor of ITN, yesterday praised Mr Mercer's work in getting the programme on air.

Mr Mercer, who was unavailable at his London home, left ITN's offices as soon as the news was announced and is expected to return only to say farewell to staff next week.

Mr Paul McKee, the deputy chief executive of ITN, is to take over editorial responsibility for the programme until a permanent replacement is appointed. Mr Michael Morris, the company's editorial manager, will handle editorial administration.

TV-am's breakfast television audience remains around the 500,000 mark with its BBC rival at 1.6 million, according to the latest audience research figures.

Channel 4 news had a budget of £4m, soon expected to rise to £5m, a year, and ITN has been contracted to produce the programme for three years.

Films by satellite for cable TV

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

A consortium in which four American film studios partner two of the main cable television operators in Britain is in the final stages of formation.

The consortium, which will beam its programmes of feature films by satellite to operators who will distribute locally by cable, consists of UIP Pay TV of the United States (owned by MGM, United Artists, Paramount, and Universal), Rediffusion and Visionaire. Others involved in the discussions are Rank and Plessey.

The partnership is the latest to develop in the wake of the Government's intentions, debated on Thursday in the Commons, to expand cable television.

Other groups preparing to provide channels are Virgin Records, Yorkshire Television, and Thorn-EMI which are expected to offer competing music channels. Screen Sport, Cable Sports and Leisure and

possibly News International, owner of Times Newspapers, The Sun, and News of the World through a 65 per cent interest in Satellite Television, will compete to provide a sports channel. Goldcrest Film and Television, a wholly owned subsidiary of S. Pearson and financial backers of *Gandhi*, *Chariots of Fire* and *Local Hero*, has formed a consortium with four American partners to provide a premier film service like Rediffusion/Visionaire.

Goldcrest, Satellite Television, and Independent Television News are expected to compete by 1985 in the provision of a news channel.

The speed of the activity has surprised even the most optimistic in the industry. The provision of those programmes is meant to give a spur to the cable operators to apply for franchises.

The Government will issue up to 12 new franchises for

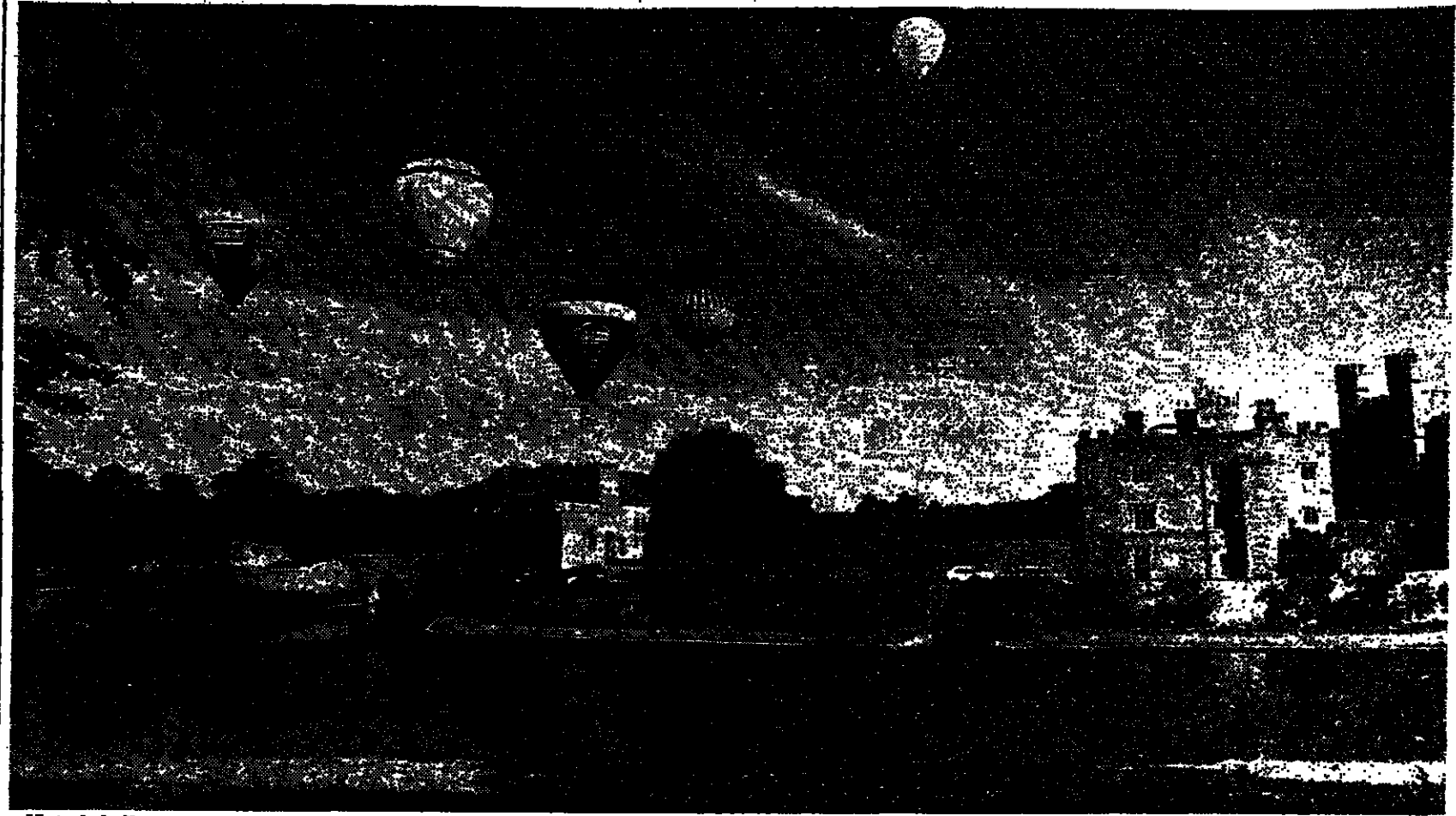
multichannel cable television (about thirty channels) by November. Applications must be submitted by the end of next month.

Most of the channels will use the low-powered satellites of ECS-1 (European Communications Satellite) which will be operational by the end of the year and the Intelsat V satellite. Satellite Television has been allocated a channel on ECS-1 which could be shared by several operators.

The other operators can obtain channels on Intelsat V satellite through British Telecom or Mercury, the private telecommunications operator.

The BBC is worried about the competition presented by these channels. Its own Direct Satellite Broadcasting (DSB) channels will not be transmitted until September, 1986, nearly two years from now, on Unisat Satellite.

Up, up and away for 200 years



Hot-air balloons rising above Leeds Castle, Kent, yesterday in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the Montgolfier brothers' first flight. The balloons will also be flown today and tomorrow. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST KILLER CLAIMS 406 VICTIMS. EVERY DAY.

This appalling statistic underlines the urgent need for research into the causes of premature death from heart disease.

The British Heart Foundation's work in supporting this research is entirely dependent upon the generosity of you, the British public. Please help us. Send your donations to: British Heart Foundation, 102 Gloucester Place, London W1H 4DH. Cheques should be made payable to the British Heart Foundation.

*Based on official figures of deaths under 75 from heart and circulatory diseases in Britain in 1980

British Heart Foundation

Help us fight Britain's biggest killer.

High Court rules against Tasmania

Hawke wins fight to stop dam

From Tony Daboudin, Melbourne

The planned Gordon-Below Franklin dam in Tasmania, which has caused a worldwide controversy, will not be built. The full High Court, in a 4-3 judgment, yesterday ruled against the dam, and work on the project will stop immediately.

The court had been asked to decide if the federal Government had the power to override legislation passed by the state government.

Sir Harry Gibbs, the Chief Justice, told a packed courtroom in Brisbane that it would be unlawful for the Tasmanian Hydroelectric Commission to continue work on the dam.

The decision has been seen in some quarters as one of the most significant in terms of the relationship between the federal Government and the states since federation. Some observers believe it will lead to a more centralized style of government and could sound the death knell for the federal system.

Mr Johannes Bjelke-Petersen, the Queensland Premier, said in Canberra it was a black day. He said the decision heralded the beginning of the end for federation and meant that the federal Government could do anything at any time.

Before the decision was announced, Mr Bob Brown, director of the Tasmanian Wilderness Society, which has spearheaded the fight against the dam, was cheered as he walked into Brisbane's Supreme Court building.

Stopping the dam had been an election promise by the Labour Party. Yesterday, Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, said that he would offer Tasmania financial support to ensure people employed on the dam were properly looked after. About 350 men were working on the dam site, and another 200 were employed at the hydroelectric Commission head office on plans, drawings, specifications and costing.

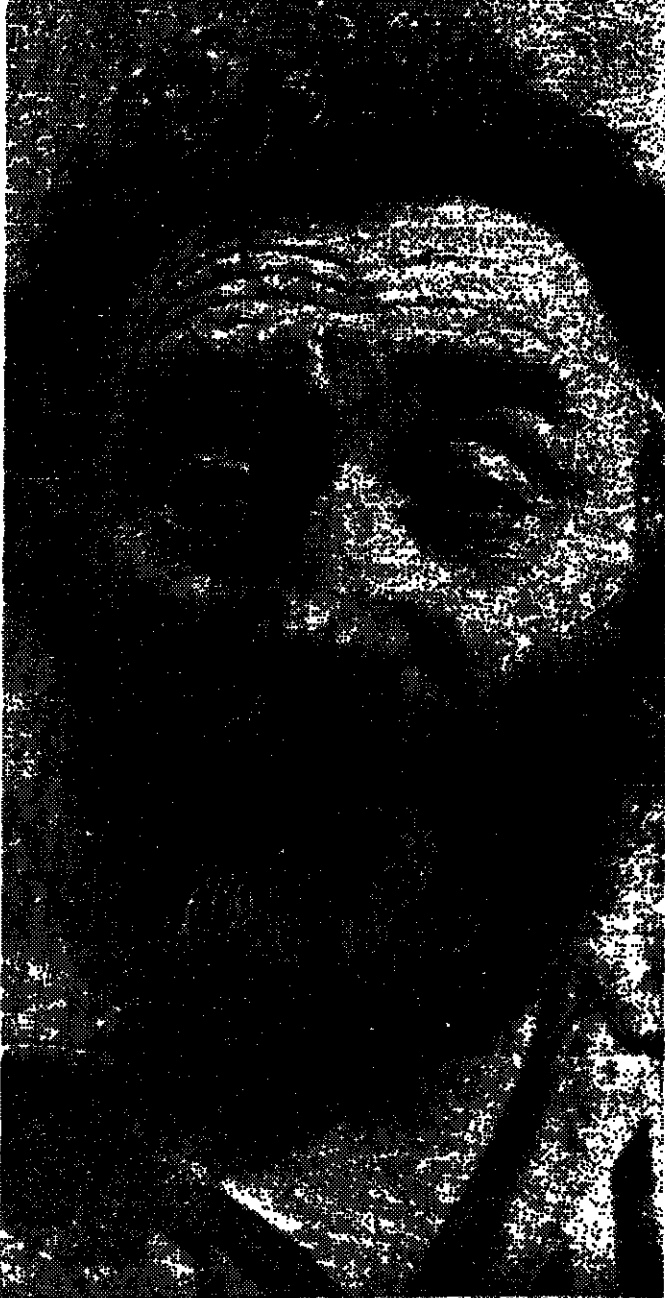
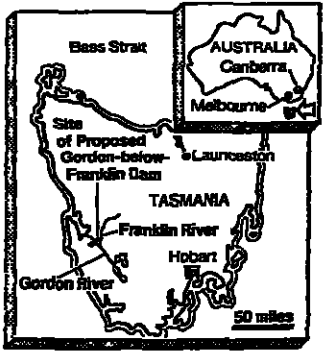
Mr Hawke told a press conference: "The federal Government welcomes the High Court judgment which confirms the Commonwealth's powers to act to preserve the wilderness of south-west Tasmania."

"The importance of this area, which contains some of the last temperate wilderness in the world, has been recognized internationally as part of the world's natural and cultural heritage through its listing in the World Heritage Register."

Delivering his judgment, Sir Harry Gibbs emphasized that the court had not considered the environmental aspects. "The court is in no way concerned whether it is desirable or undesirable... that construction of the dam should proceed", he said.

"The assessment of the possible advantages and disadvantages of constructing the dam and the balancing of one against the other are not matters of the court and court's judgment does not reflect any view of the merits of the dispute."

The federal and Tasmanian governments took the issue to court in April after Tasmania had refused federal offers of extra money if it would stop construction.



Mr David Bellamy, the biologist whose hunger strike drew world attention to the Franklin dam project.

Ayatollah fails in action for £37bn

New York (Reuters) - A New York appeals court said yesterday that a \$56 billion (£37 billion) action brought by Ayatollah Khomeini against the deposed Shah of Iran was rightly dismissed two years ago because Manhattan was not the right place to judge an Iranian dispute.

The ruling by the State Supreme Court upheld a November 1981 decision by the Manhattan Supreme Court.

The suit, claiming that the Shah and his family operated an international network to loot the Iranian treasury, was filed in November, 1979, 10 months after the Shah fled from Iran. He died the following year. It was brought in New York because members of the Shah's family lived here and the Pahlavi Foundation, backed by the Shah, was based here.

The court, by a four to one vote, said events on which the action was based took place in Iran and it was not proper to ask "overbroad" New York courts to hear the case.

The court said: "It is an Iranian matter - a suit by the Islamic Republic of Iran against its former ruler and his wife, nationals of Iran, based on acts in Iran, relating to the affairs of Iran."

"We doubt that the courts of this state are really competent to pass on whether an absolute monarch of a foreign country can be held responsible for personally profiting from the use of his powers as an absolute monarch," the court said.

The action accused the Shah of diverting large sums of money to his own use by establishing charitable foundations that were ostensibly made to improve the welfare of the Iranian people.

France denies any military involvement in Chad

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The Government has vigorously denied reports in the French press that France was about to "engage massively" in Chad, and that French military instructors were already on their way to Niamey to assist President Hissène Habré in his fight against rebel troops led by ex-President Goukouni Oueddei.

"There are no French military personnel in Chad, and it is not envisaged that any should be sent", a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. However, he could neither confirm nor deny other reports that French civilian technicians had arrived in the Chadian capital to help instruct Government forces in the use of French arms.

Nor could he give details of the amount or type of arms sent by France to Chad under the 1976 military cooperation agreement. Some press reports have spoken of up to 200 tons of military materials. Under the agreement, France may send military technicians to Chad provided they do not take part in operations.

President Mitterrand said earlier this week that France would respect "without limits" its undertakings towards the former French colony. M. Christian Nucci, the French Minister for Overseas Development and Cooperation, has visited Niamey twice in the past week to discuss with President Habré the latest developments in the civil war.

Mr Habré accused Libya of being behind the rebel army, while M. Nucci has spoken of the concern of France's "African partners" at the sudden escalation of the conflict "which to them seems to be linked to attempts by Libya to destabilize matters in that part of Africa."

Egypt and Sudan have both issued statements deploring "Libya's aggressive actions in the north of Chad", and have called on other African nations to help President Habré "to prevent the invaders continue their invasion".



Mr Habré: No details of arms shipments

prevent the invaders continue their invasion".

In an interview yesterday the French daily *Le Matin*, Colonel Gaddafi, Libyan leader, insisted there was "not a single Lib soldier in Chad", and issued warnings against any possible military intervention by France.

"Frankly, I do not believe that France would be so far as to send troops to Chad", said. "It would be political suicide. French soldiers would be taken prisoner, and might even become the victims of massacres. The Mitterrand regime could even find itself threatened."

"In my opinion, I don't think anyone will take the risk of sending troops to Chad, a spear for Libya as well. The United States will not allow American soldiers into Chadian hell."

"It can be of course, give a to its agents to send their 'Mubarak' (of Egypt), Nino (of Sudan), or Mobutu (Zaire) are stupid enough to do."

LAGOS: President Si Shagari of Nigeria meets President Habré today (AFP photo). In late April there was outbreak of border fight around Lake Chad.

Moscow puts brave face on Warsaw Pact talks

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The Soviet leadership is putting a brave face on this week's inconclusive one-day summit of the Warsaw Pact and presenting it as a united effort by the Soviet bloc to promote arms reductions despite Western intransigence.

Comments in the press yesterday were clearly aimed at the Soviet-West German talks which begin on Monday, when Chancellor Helmut Kohl arrives in Moscow. The Novosti press agency said the Warsaw Pact summit on Tuesday had shown that Russia and its allies were united in seeking agreement at the Geneva arms talks and had deliberately refrained from reacting to the "invitation to confrontation" issued by the Williamsburg summit at the end of May.

At its regular Thursday session, the Politburo discussed the Pact summit and concluded (according to the published account) that the "unanimity" reached was particularly important at this critical juncture in East-West relations. It appealed to NATO to "draw reasonable conclusions" which would "meet the profound interests of mankind".

Pressure stay on Polish writers' union

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The Polish authorities, given the Union of Writers stay of execution, but the great pressure on dissident authors to step down from union leadership and abandon their "anti-socialist" line.

Writers said yesterday the Government had decided to extend for two months a months deadline imposed on the union in January.

The deadline to force union to purge itself of "socialist elements".

The talks between the authorities and the writers reached a tense pitch, many writers in the leadership refusing to give their commitment to goals independent of the party line.

The moves are part of government drive to ensure the cultural unions can longer become springboard opposition to the party leadership. The unions of journalists and artists have been disbanded.

UN body supports EEC view on need for world wheat pact

From Zoriana Pysarski, New York

The United Nations World Food Council ended its four-day ministerial session with a call for the negotiation of an international wheat agreement to regulate grain prices and reserves. This would allow both industrialized and developing countries to become less vulnerable to the fluctuations of the cereal market.

In doing so, the 36-member council, composed of food and agriculture ministers from all regions of the world, came down on the side of the European Community, which favours such an agreement, and against the United States, which feels that the move would tamper with what should be an open market.

The two sides are in the middle of a dispute concerning European subsidizing of farm exports to foreign markets once dominated by the United States.

Nevertheless, the idea of an open market with general approval, and it appeared that the council endorsed regional plans for the developing countries, which would redirect national strategies towards the traditional farming sectors of Latin America, Africa and Asia.

The intention is to reverse the trend from consumer-oriented to food-producing economies.

During the debate, frequent reference was made to Africa, which over the past two decades has changed from a continent self-sufficient in food to a big agricultural importer.

At the same time, Asia was cited as an astounding success story in increasing its food output and achieving a high measure of self-reliance by pioneering a variety of innovative programmes. For Africa, with its potentially disastrous hunger problems, the key was considered to be government strategy providing incentive for small farmers.

The council also expressed concern about the heavy concentration of grain stocks in North America, and recommended a progressive increase in grain production elsewhere.

Comments in the press yesterday were clearly aimed at the Soviet-West German talks which begin on Monday, when Chancellor Helmut Kohl arrives in Moscow. The Novosti press agency said the Warsaw Pact summit on Tuesday had shown that Russia and its allies were united in seeking agreement at the Geneva arms talks and had deliberately refrained from reacting to the "invitation to confrontation" issued by the Williamsburg summit at the end of May.

PARLIAMENT July 1 1983

Project to bring new life to dockland

LONDON

A multi-million pound redevelopment plan for one of the last major sites close to the City of London, the 24-acre Hays Wharf site, which stretches along the south bank of the Thames between London Bridge and Tower Bridge, was announced by Sir George Young, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, when he opened a debate on London.

The Scheme, put forward by the London Docklands Development Corporation, had been considered and approved by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Mr Patrick Jenkin, with only minor amendments.

The project would bring new life and many jobs to an area which has been allowed to run down for so long.

The Government was supporting the building of a £77m light railway system by the LDDC and the GLC to link the Isle of Dogs to the City of London to the west and to the rail and underground network to the north.

The proposals, which included new housing, industry and office building, the extensive site preparation and infrastructure works, together with the light railway, was creating a new confidence in dockland. There were signs that with this confidence the regeneration of docklands was starting to gain its own momentum with the private sector leading the way.

In order to ensure the architectural heritage of the area was fully taken into account, the Department was that day issuing a list of revisions to the statutory lists of historic buildings for docklands, with 115 additions in Southwark, Tower Hamlets and Newham.

The Government would contribute about £66m to the docklands light rail project and about £14m to the Heathrow terminal 4 extension of the Piccadilly Line.

Substantial progress had been made in providing adequate resources for London's transport needs, but the means to ensure proper use of these resources had been lacking. The organization of transport in London was fundamentally flawed.

Under the GLC, London Transport had been buffeted by violent swings of political direction from County Hall. This had made the task of those responsible for managing and managing it almost impossible, so the Government was committed to establishing a London Regional Transport Authority.

Mr Ronald Leighton (Newham North East, Lab), for the Opposition, said the Government had robbed London of its history and seemed to be motivated by a malign vendetta against the capital.

It was anomalous that the Metropolitan Police should be responsible to one man, the Home Secretary, Reform was needed.

In London last year under a Conservative Government crime went up and detection and conviction went down. The GLC was set up by the Conservatives after the 1981 election and seemed to be motivated by a malign vendetta against the capital.

Mr John Carlwright (Woolwich, SDP) said inner London had a growing elderly population with time to time to vote Labour. The implication was that local democracy was valid only if the Conservative Party was in power.

To abolish lawfully-elected authorities merely because they pursue policies not to the liking of the Prime Minister suggested that she was determined to eliminate any body of opinion which did not accord with her dictum that she knew best.

Mr Jeremy Hanley (Richmond and Barnes, C), in a maiden speech, said his constituency was a beautiful area scarred by inordinate and constant noise from road traffic and from the air.

Mr Reginald Freeson (Brent East, Lab) said major internal reorganization at County Hall, in Government departments and in some London boroughs was required to tackle some of the most pressing problems, social, economic, environmental, especially in the inner area.

Abolition of the GLC would make the solution of the problems more difficult. It would certainly not cut costs and would destroy elective responsibility.

Mr Tony Banks (Newham, North-West, Lab), in a maiden speech, said that sniping journalists spied on GLC Labour members outside their homes and harassed councillors' children and neighbours.

The GLC (he said) is not going to be a South Bank equivalent of the Belgrano, to be destroyed merely to satisfy the power lust of the Prime Minister. We are made of much sterner stuff and are not going to be so easy to sink.

Mr John Carlwright (Woolwich, SDP) said inner London had a growing elderly population with time to time to vote Labour. The implication was that local democracy was valid only if the Conservative Party was in power.

phased out and replaced by large hospitals, often badly sited and inaccessible.

Mr John Marples (Leisham, West, C), in a maiden speech, said local government must be made more efficient in using its resources. Active and imaginative management was needed. There should be cuts on council spending.

Mr Terence Dickes (Hayes and Harlington, C), in a maiden speech, said that the Bison system housing in his constituency had been badly constructed at the factory and badly assembled on site. In the expensive task of dealing with the results by repair and by demolishing and reconstructing, his local authority, of which he had been a member, had had precious little help from government but sympathy by the backfitter. The national consequences of the use of the system were enormous.

Mr Jeremy Corbyn (Islington, North, Lab), in a maiden speech, said it was incredible that at this time, with all of the problems that London faced of massive unemployment and problems of transport and traffic management, the Government should mount a massive media campaign against the GLC and seek to abolish it. They had done so because they did not like the fact that they could not win control of the council at the last election.

Mr Patrick Groom (Fulham and Heston, C), in a maiden speech, said the Government, in the near future, should review its strategy for the south east, particularly for the growth areas, because of the uncertainty of government in London.

Early debate sought on EEC herring quota dispute

FISHERIES

The Danish delegation at the Fisheries Council of the EEC had prevented agreement being reached on North Sea herring quotas early on Friday morning, Mr Michael Jopling, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food said.

At the end of exchanges following his statement, Mr Eric Deskins, a Labour spokesman on fisheries, gave notice that the Opposition would seek an early debate, probably under the emergency procedure.

Mr Jopling said that after long and, at times, difficult discussion, nine member states had been prepared to agree to arrangements for interim quotas for herring in the northern and central North Sea, equivalent to two thirds of the total quotas proposed by the Commission for each member state for 1983, in order to permit fishing to continue until the next Council meeting.

This would also have permitted the Council (he said) to agree to the Danes continuing to fish on a similar basis. Unfortunately the Danish delegation were unable to agree and when the matter was put to the vote they invoked the Luxembourg compromise.

This meant that no agreement on member states' quotas was possible. In these circumstances a number of member states, including the United Kingdom, felt that they could not agree to the Danes' continuing to fish if the member states' fishermen were prevented from doing so.

The situation now is therefore that fishermen from Norway and those member states who have used up their "interim" quotas will have to stop fishing. United Kingdom fishermen have no quotas and therefore they are likely to do so soon. If so, continued opportunities to fish herring are likely to be available at the West of Scotland and we will be in touch with the industry shortly about possible opening dates.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for July 11, but it may be brought forward.

Dr Mark Hughes, an Opposition spokesman on agriculture, fisheries and food (City of Durham, Lab), said anything he could do about the Danish Government's decision? He said much of our quota will be left in the central and northern part of the North Sea? What evidence is there of over-fishing of their quota by the Dutch fishermen, is there adequate policing power to ensure the ban on herring fishing is actually put into operation?

Mr Jopling: I think it is likely we shall have another Fisheries Council earlier than July 11 at which best endeavours must be used to persuade the Danish Government to be more helpful over this important matter.

The United Kingdom fishermen have some quota left and should be able to fish for a day or two. If Danes certain countries have reached their quota and this means steps will be taken in the event of any nation fishing in waters which come under British jurisdiction. Moves are taking place to have an inspectorate of inspectors. It was agreed in January and they are already being recruited.

Mr Jopling: There is evidence that in the north part of the North Sea certain countries have reached their quota and this means steps will be taken in the event of any nation fishing in waters which come under British jurisdiction. Moves are taking place to have an inspectorate of inspectors. It was agreed in January and they are already being recruited.

Later he said: I have already proposed the Commission to get ahead with the establishment of the inspectorate as quickly as possible. I hope we shall have a date soon. I am anxious to see the inspectors inspecting some other countries where I believe standards of enforcement do not compare with what we have.

Mr Jopling: There is general agreement over this matter. The fishery is on the point of being opened in any case and this will happen in the normal course of events.

Mr Clement Freud (Cambridge-shire North-East, L), is the Dutch herring fleet to be allowed to continue to over-fish and did the Council discuss monitoring community landings in member states?

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Triplos results: natural sciences, part 1b

The following Triplos examination results from Cambridge University are announced.

NATURAL SCIENCES TRIPLOS PART 1

Class 1: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 2: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 3: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 4: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 5: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 6: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 7: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 8: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 9: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 10: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 11: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 12: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 13: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 14: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 15: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. Class 16: D. A. J. Adams, Richard J. Adams, and John A. Adams. 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Syria seeks control of PLO as its price for peace with Arafat

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

With the encouragement of Saudi Arabia and Algeria, Mr. Yasser Arafat's senior colleagues in the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) have decided to try and smother the hostility between President Assad of Syria and Mr Arafat by sending a delegation to Damascus today.

But the Syrian leader seems in no mood to accept such blandishments - which include a suggestion that the two men meet in Saudi Arabia on Monday - at face value. An initial approach to Syria by Saudi and Algerian mediators came to an abrupt end when the two men left Damascus without seeing the President.

In the Lebanese Bekaa valley, a ceasefire between loyalist and rebel guerrillas within the PLO was maintained yesterday after Palestinian in Baalbek had reached their own independent agreement to discuss the grievances of mutineers. The truce, which appears to have received the consent of Mr Abu Jihad (Khalil al-Wazir), the PLO's military commander in the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli, was apparently arranged without Mr Arafat's knowledge, a sure sign of the PLO chairman's inability to control events in Lebanon now that he has been banished back to Tunis.

In Tunis, Mr Arafat chaired a meeting of the PLO's 15-member executive until the early hours of yesterday, a conference

that inevitably decided to create a special committee of its own to examine the divisions within the Fatah guerrilla movement.

More importantly, it decided to send a six-man delegation to Syria today to seek terms under which Mr Arafat - expelled from Syria a week ago - could return to Damascus. The fact that the PLO meeting ended with an expression of "sorrow" rather than anger at Syria's decision to throw the PLO chairman out of the country suggests that if the delegation is carrying a face-saving formula, it will be designed to save Mr Arafat's ever more weak physiology rather than that of the Syrian President.

One clue to Syria's latest thinking is contained in a leading article in the Damascus Government's *Al-Bath* newspaper which has insisted that the PLO does not have the right to take independent action in the Arab-Israeli conflict. This contention has been for many years one of Mr Arafat's most persistent battle cries but *Al-Bath* has emphasized that such action should be the subject of a "pan-Arab decision".

By pan-Arab, the newspaper presumably means Syria, since the Syrian Army is the only Arab force currently facing Israeli troops with Palestinian support. As an example of this policy, Colonel Abu Ahmed, commander of the only pro-Arafat PLO outpost to hold out immediately behind the cease-

fire lines in the Bekaa, was "invited" to Damascus to discuss his military position. Since his position is hopeless - his 40 teenage subordinates are surrounded by Syrian armour at the village of Idita - the benefits of a pan-Arab decision are no doubt being made clear to him.

Mr Arafat probably will have to accept the same principle if he is to return to Damascus, and it would be quite a blow to his political prestige. If the PLO cannot take any military decision without Syria's permission, then the whole organization will have become effectively a creature of Damascus. It was typical that the two representatives on the executive committee who most staunchly favour Syria - those of the Saika guerrilla movement and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command - boycotted the Tunis meeting.

Even more significantly, the committee decided "to stop any form of information campaign or propaganda" against the Syrians. For his part, President Assad told a Hungarian television interviewer on Thursday that his relationship with Mr Arafat "is just as it always has been", and dismissed reports of a serious dispute.

It seems, therefore, that Mr Arafat may be permitted to return to Damascus to sip from the chalice of pan-Arab unity. The taste, however, may not be to his liking.

Lebanon options

Israel prepares to dig in for long stay

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The disclosure yesterday of details of three possible schemes for an Israeli redeployment in Lebanon, now completed by the Army's general staff, has increased speculation that Israel is preparing for a long stay in its new positions once they have been taken up.

According to Israeli sources, all three possibilities are based on the installation of an extensive new defensive system in occupied Lebanon, which will include the erection of security fences and the digging of entrenched positions. Such moves will inevitably reinforce the impression that Lebanon is being subjected to *de facto* partition.

The essential difference between the plans is the distance they envisage Israel retreating in face of the difficulty of finding satisfactory forces to fill the vacuum. A final decision will be taken by the Cabinet, which will soon begin debating the options.

Israeli officers regard the building of an elaborate new system of fences - probably similar to those which now protect the Occupied West Bank from neighbouring Jordan - as vital to prevent the infiltration of guerrillas into the more

compact zone where Israel's forces will be concentrated. It is understood that once the pullback has been completed, Israeli troops will immediately begin a systematic anti-guerrilla sweep inside the Lebanese territory which will still remain under their control.

Yesterday, senior officials in Jerusalem flatly rejected a suggestion by Washington that Israel must consider a unilateral withdrawal from the whole of Lebanon in an effort to pressure Syria to follow suit.

One source dismissed the idea of such a rearranged timetable as "a total non-starter". The Israeli rejection of the idea was made clear shortly before Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's special Middle East envoy, held a hour-long meeting with Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, and other senior Cabinet members.

The forthcoming redeployment was again the prominent issue. Israel's declared intention of a partial withdrawal was also the central topic at a special meeting in Tel Aviv, during which six former chiefs of staff of the Israeli Army were called to give their views on the fraught security situation in Lebanon to Mr Moshe Arens, the new Defence Minister.

Hospital escape bid is foiled

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

An attempt was made in the corridors of a busy hospital here yesterday to snatch South Africa's only woman political prisoner to freedom.

A woman with a man disguised with bandages and plaster to look like an injured patient attacked a young wardress who had brought Barbara Hogan, aged 30, jailed for 10 years last October for high treason, to the high Johannesburg General Hospital for treatment.

The couple escaped in the crowded milling in the quarter-mile central corridor of the hospital but Miss Hogan was held by a doctor and a nurse who rushed to the wardress's aid.

Lieutenant-General M. C. Brink, of the Prisoners Department, said Miss Hogan had been referred to the hospital for treatment by an ear, nose and throat specialist and was accompanied by a wardress, Miss C. Benade, aged 19.

He said as the walked along the wide central corridor they encountered the woman who appeared to be escorting a man with a heavily bandaged face. As they drew level the woman sprayed an aerosol container in Miss Benade's face while the bandaged man grabbed her.

Miss Hogan started to flee with the woman as Miss Benade, who is trained in unarmed combat, elbowed the man holding her in the stomach and managed to pull out her whistle and blow it furiously. A doctor and a nurse rushed to her aid and seized Miss Hogan. The couple ran in opposite directions and got away.

As Miss Hogan was taken back to prison, police started questioning hospital staff and outpatients who were in the corridor at the time to try to establish a clue to the identity of the pair. They were also trying to establish how the couple knew almost the exact time Miss Hogan and her escort would be walking along the corridor.

The first direct talks for more than a decade between Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, and Morocco's King Hassan, long at odds on Arab and African questions, have so far produced no real results, a well informed source told *The Times* yesterday (Godfrey Morrison writes from Rabat).

The Libyan leader, shown here on Thursday evening with the Moroccan monarch, has already held about two hours of discussions with King Hassan on the crisis facing the Palestine Liberation Organization, on the Western Sahara, and other African and Arab questions, the source said. They were due to meet again late yesterday.

Observers here said the simple fact that the meeting had taken place was remarkable. In 1971 and 1972 Colonel Gaddafi expressed strong verbal support for elements of the Moroccan armed forces who made two attempts to overthrow their monarch.

Later in the day the Libyan leader was due to meet heads of Morocco's political parties, who could be expected to let him know that, whatever their differences on domestic politics, they are united on the need for their country to maintain its "territorial integrity".

This is the Moroccan catchphrase for its determination to hold on to the Western Sahara, which Polisario guerrillas have

been trying for seven years to make into an independent state. Libya and Algeria have been the Polisario's main diplomatic and material supporters.

Moroccan officials describe as very important Colonel Gaddafi's statement last week that his country no longer had "any dispute" with Morocco, and that Libya had done its duty by Polisario now that the matter was in the hands of the Organization for African Unity.

A Moroccan official source said the initiative for the meeting had come from the Libyans, and this seems to confirm the widespread interpretation that it is part of the Libyan leader's attempt to emerge from diplomatic isolation.

Libya was the only African state to withdraw from last month's OAU summit in Addis Ababa after the Polisario agreed to absent themselves from the meeting, thereby averting a boycott of "moderate" states, led by Morocco.

French appeal

Paris (Reuters) - With an estimated four and a half million Frenchmen taking to the roads for the annual holiday period, police have warned drivers to go slower, check their car safety and take proper rest. Last year 12,409 people died in road accidents and 321,369 were injured.

Nazi souvenirs fetch £14,500 in New York

New York (Reuters) - A collection of Hitler memorabilia which surfaced after the recent controversy surrounding the fake diaries alleged to have been kept by the Nazi leader fetched \$22,000 (£14,500) at auction in New York yesterday.

The 40 items, auctioned by the Charles Hamilton Galleries, included a silver dish presented by Hitler to his mistress Eva Braun for Christmas in 1944. It fetched \$3,250.

Ten lots of Hitler's personal stationery sold for more than \$3,000.

Guatemalan leader cancels parade

By Our Foreign Staff

made, however, of when the handover to full civilian rule would occur.

Voting is to take place on July 29, 1984 for a constituent assembly, which will begin its deliberations on September 15, the anniversary of Guatemala's independence.

The opinion is widespread here, however, that the political opponents of General Rios Montt will not be prepared to wait that long.

It would be the extreme right, with its strong political parties, that would stand to gain the most from the overthrow of the Rios Montt Government.

The National Liberation

Movement (MLN), for example, led by Señor Mario Sandoval Alarcón, says that the general, whom the party supported in the 1982 coup, has failed to heed its interests.

"The imposition of the state of alarm represents a severe setback to political freedom in Guatemala", said Señor Alberto Antonietti, the MLN's press chief.

General Rios Montt has been coming under attack from the powerful Roman Catholic church, high-ranking Army officers, business leaders, professional organizations, as well as virtually every political party.

Terrorists sink police patrol boat in Corsica

From Diana Geddes, Paris

A police patrol boat was sunk, a van destroyed and a police station attacked with gunfire and explosives during Thursday night, bringing the number of attacks in Corsica this year to 318.

The attacks came two weeks after the "disappearance" of M. Guy Orsoni, the Corsican nationalist militant, whose body has still not been found. Seven people, including three with close links with the right-wing Gaullist RFA party, have been charged with his kidnap.

One of those arrested has confessed that M. Orsoni was kidnapped and tortured in Porto Vecchio, in the south of the island, before being killed. But he has given no clue as to where the body might be found.

Included in the targets for Thursday night's attacks were two shops in Porto Vecchio, one belonging to the wife of M. Jean-Marc Lecia, a well-known drug trafficker, who is being sought by police in connection with the Orsoni case. The other belonged to M. Lecia's mother-in-law. Both shops were badly damaged by bombs.

Surprise witness in sabotage trial

From Our Correspondent, Harare

A convicted murderer testified as a surprise witness yesterday in the trial of six Zimbabwe Air Force officers accused of sabotaging a number of aircraft at the Thornhill base in July 1982.

Mr Soldier Mapolisa revealed to the High Court that he had seen one of the accused officers write a statement in police calls.

The time period when Mr Mapolisa said he saw Air Commodore Philip File writing on paper handed to him by police coincides with the time when the defence maintains the officer made a statement disavowing any blame in the sabotage incident. The state has no record of such a statement.

The trial also heard further medical evidence on the consequences of electric shock treatment which the defence asserts was administered to four of the six accused to get them to write "confessions" after they had initially denied complicity.

Mr Michael James, an anaesthetist, said that a 12-volt car battery could inflict a severe shock if administered through needles or clips attached to the skin. He also corroborated the conclusions drawn by Mr George Patrikios, a surgeon,

45 freed hostages fly home to Prague

Vienna (Reuters) Forty-five Czechoslovakians held hostage by Angolan rebels for more than three months returned home yesterday on a special aircraft.

The 21 children, 17 women and seven men were met at Prague airport by the Deputy Foreign Minister and foreign trade officials.

The group was part of 66 Czechoslovakians captured in a central Angolan raid last March by Unita guerrillas, who are still holding 20 other Czechoslovakians.

The court was told that Namdar had "purchased" the maid in Iran. She was dressed in rags and continually beaten. He threw her dismembered body in the Seine.

MP expelled

Paris (AFP) - Rastegar Namdar, a wealthy Iranian exile, has been jailed for 12 years for beating his 14-year-old Iranian maid to death with a television cable when she lost his baby's teddy bear.

Mr Namdar had "purchased" the maid in Iran. She was dressed in rags and continually beaten. He threw her dismembered body in the Seine.

Narrow Russian chess victory over England

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

The Soviet Union had a hard struggle with England in Round 6 of the European Team Chess Championship finals at Plovdiv in Bulgaria yesterday and eventually won by the narrowest margin, 4½-3½.

Details were: Miles ½, Karporov ½, QGD 15 moves, Nunn ½, Poljanec ½, Kings Indian Defence 22, Speelman ½, Vaganian ½, Kings Indian Defence 35, Mestel 1, Tukmakov 0, Kings Indian Defence, 36, Keene 0, Psakhis 1, Nimzo Indian Defence 42, Chandler ½, Romanishin ½, QGD Tarrasch Defence 40, Short ½, Yusupov ½, Petroff Defence 16, Littlewood 0, Geller 1, Ruy Lopez 68.

Other match results: Denmark 2, Yugoslavia 6; Bulgaria 2½, Netherlands 4; Hungary 4, West Germany 3 and 1 adjourned.

Adjourned games results: Round 4: Denmark 2, Soviet Union 6. Round 5: Bulgaria 4½, Denmark 3½; Soviet Union 4, Yugoslavia 4.

So the Soviet Union lead with 33½, followed by Yugoslavia 29½, Hungary 26½, and 1 adjourned, England 25½, Netherlands 25, Bulgaria 20, Denmark 16½, and West Germany 14½ and 1 adjourned.



Happy birthday in the rain for Princess

Edmonton (Reuters, AP) - More than a thousand people waited patiently in the rain to see the Princess of Wales as she and Prince Charles arrived for a glittering state banquet on her twenty-second birthday.

The Prince and Princess delighted their soaked admirers with moments of reappearing on the second-storey balcony of Government House.

A stalwart group of 300 remained outside to see the couple leave and sing "Happy Birthday" to the Princess.

Birthday wishes flowed throughout the day, beginning with the presentation of a T-shirt from the Canadian swimming team during a tour of a housing area for athletes attending the World University Games.

The Princess said she was a keen swimmer and always beat Prince Charles when they raced in the pool. She was chatting about swimming with Dave Wilson, aged 22, a member of the American swimming team.

The Prince and Princess strolled through the rain to meet the athletes and were due to fly back to London after attending the Games opening.

The Princess wore a red silk evening dress with fitted bodice and shoelace straps. She had a sequined lace overjacket with three quarter-length sleeves, the Spencer tiana and diamond earrings.

THE ARTS

Radio

Compelling illusion

As a programme title, *In the Psychiatrist's Chair* (Radio 4, Wednesdays, produced by Michael Embery), conjures up evocative imagery: a subtly-lit consulting room with diplomas on the wall (alongside, perhaps, a print of Munch's screaming man); a subject reclining on a leather couch; the psychiatrist with pen poised, an open notebook on his knee.

It is, however, an illusion. In reality, the psychiatrist, Dr Anthony Clare, is talking to his subject across the green-baize table of a BBC studio. But aided by the theatricality of radio, the mystery and mystique of psychiatry makes Dr Clare's latest series of interview examinations compelling listening.

This week's "patient", ballet dancer Lynn Seymour, expressed surprise that anyone should be remotely interested in what makes her tick. Dr Clare didn't, but surely could have, told her why that was. There is simply nothing we like better than seeing (or hearing) someone pinned down and dissected by an incisive interviewer. How much more so if we have the additional sensation of being a fly on a wall where we really shouldn't be.

The listener becomes a privileged eavesdropper on what has the semblance of a very private conversation, in which one party, by virtue of his profession, is permitted to extract and finger the contents of the other's subconscious.

"This may be an unfair question..." Dr Clare frequently purs in his soft, ingratiating, disarming voice. Just how unfair depends, presumably, on how much the BBC pay those on the receiving end. Nevertheless, the questions are asked about the death of their children, the suicide of their lovers or the breakdown of their marriages.

The replies he elicits vary, of course, from subject to subject. Malcolm Muggeridge transformed the inquisition into a semantic quagmire; Susan Sontag was frighteningly vulnerable; Chris Bonnington was cautiously reserved. But none escape without giving something of themselves irrevocably away. And the moment that a raw nerve is uncovered - some fear, weakness or prejudice - Dr Clare (still purring) reveals his claws, scratches, and draws

David Wade is on holiday.

Brian Sibley

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Brian Sibley

Theatre



Steele and Roy Castle: asking too much

A leaky vehicle for Tommy Steele

Singin' in the Rain
Palladium

Not having seen the Gene Kelly film, I can only record my bewilderment that this latest version of the Tommy Steele show can ever have achieved classic rank in any other medium.

As splashed across the Palladium stage (starring and directed by Mr Steele), *Singin' in the Rain* tells a story of the birth of talking pictures in a way that combines the maximum quota of Hollywood clichés with the maximum implausibility. One reason for this is that it puts pleasantness before plot. Not only is Mr Steele, grinning from ear to ear throughout the evening, totally pleasant; but so

is the Hollywood columnist, the megaphone-brandishing director, the studio boss, and other figures whom you normally find crawling from under a flat stone.

The only exception is Mr Steele's leading lady, the silent-movie goddess Lina (Sarah Payne) who has to pay for her vocal imperfections by getting the cream-pie treatment and suffering a humiliating trick that wrecks her career. From this, one of the few dramatic episodes, it seems that the show is gleefully trampling on the grave of the silent cinema.

That is not the only way in which the story goes wrong. It begins with a celebrity line-up outside Grauman's Chinese Theatre, with Mr Steele arriving to a cheering crowd in company with his pianist Cosmo (Roy

Castle) whom nobody has ever heard of.

Flashback to their early burlesque days as two equal song-and-dance men, and their first film break. You are then asked to believe that Mr Steele rose to stardom by standing in as a cowboy hero's stuntman.

The adaptation shows some consistency in exploiting the fact of live performance: not only by whipping up audience cheers for the gods of the 1920s, but also by feeding in film clips of the successive variants of the Versailles movie from its swashbuckling first version to the disastrous remake in which Lina opens her mouth in public. These are skillfully made to expose every rehearsal with the increasingly distraught director (Matt Zimmerman) stuffing the microphone into every hiding

place available on a garlanded Wateau swing, culminating with a heartbreak from the star's cleavage.

Such moments are few, for the main business of the evening is to bring back a collection of much-loved standards, from "Fascinating Rhythm" to the title number which Mr Steele sings drenched to the skin by a downpour and a street hydrant; and to mount a succession of bravura tap routines (choreography by Peter Gennaro) where Mr Steele, relaxed as a bird in flight, comes into his own.

Miss Payne is very funny as the obnoxious Lina, and Danielle Carson plays her sympathetic song-bird rival with a submissive charm that belongs more to the old silent days.

Irving Wardle

Concert

RPO/Chaïly
Festival Hall

Paul Tortelier is always more than ready, right in the middle of a concert, with an encore tucked up the sleeve of his cello. But the sort of applause that encourages it, despite yards of rough intonation and a stubborn determination never to woe with mere beauty of tone, is always well-earned.

On Thursday, in the Dvorak B minor Cello Concerto, the wooing was done by Tortelier's

adopting an uncompromising, even fierce stance towards the music: in the first movement urging the orchestra on to the horn's solo, then saving the cello's own lyricism for much later, in poignant retrospective duet with the flute. After an austere, elegiac adagio, Riccardo Chailly found a march-militaire sprightliness for the finale, preparing the way for a purely gallicated cello entry which, before long, took over in guiding the movement in and out of action and contemplation.

That same rhythmic élan which Chailly and Tortelier had drawn from the Royal Philharmonic in the first half of the evening, maintained its impetus after the interval. Schumann's Fourth Symphony seemed a true symphonic fantasy simply by the creating of a real, vital continuity of tension and release between its movements.

Mr Chailly judged and adjusted the pulse within and between each contrasting tempo in such a way that one seemed an inflection, then deflection of the other: the energy between

the last chord of the first movement and the first of the second, for instance, or the lift under the severe emphases of the scherzo's canon, or the sense of celebratory summation in the finale's mirror-image staccato chords.

The orchestra were alert and warmly responsive to all these cross-currents and cross-references, recreating keenly an entirely idiomatic emotional volatility within economy of means.

Hilary Finch

Scaling climaxes

Suddenly Last Summer
New End

Tennessee Williams's title, originally a draw I suppose, must work against it now. But in a production as compelling as this one by the young cooperative group Framework, *Suddenly Last Summer* reasserts its claim as one of the twentieth century's greatest one-act plays.

Williams's chosen form makes the two female leads a formidable test of acting: the action, being entirely in the past, lives only by their descriptions. One is a New Orleans matriarch, recalling yearly vacations with her poor cousin Catharine, the other is his poor cousin Catharine, his last companion, who had a nervous breakdown after witnessing his death on a Mediterranean island and whose account of it is so grotesquely macabre that the outraged old lady wants her lobotomized.

Catharine's story - virtually a 20-minute monologue - is deferred to the very end. The tension is tremendous; the payoff shattering. And convincing: Sebastian's fate as a lynched and cannibalized corpse follows his final acceptance, after Apollonian years of sun and

poetry, of the Dionysus within him that devours his young lovers and batters on their youth. But this is much more than a reconceived, sometimes heavily over-symbolic, *Bacchae* with a Pentheus who liked Shephard's Hotel; or even an exorcism of Williams's grief over his mentally ill sister Rose.

Francesca Folan (Mrs Venable) imperiously overcomes the off-putting handicap of her youth to give a rich study in maternal blindness to her child's true self. Jessica Saunders, as Catharine, embodies a sanity so extreme that it impinges on madness. Directed by Anthony Holdsworth and Steven Ellery, they pace their narratives entrancingly and scale the climaxes with effortless confidence.

As the young brain surgeon (Montgomery Clift's part) torn between the aunt's lure of an endowment and his truth instinct, Steven Brown signals tact, temptation or embarrassment with the most delicate body-language. Assisted by an eerie soundtrack from Dave Ball and Ginny Hewes, Huw Feather's white petrified-forest set and multichrome lighting recreate Sebastian's carnivorous jungle with originality and success.

Anthony Masters

WEEKEND CHOICE

In its classroom context, *RHINO* (tomorrow, ITV, 9.30 pm), the third of David Leland's realistically realized plays about British schooling in the Eighties, is an acronym for Really Here in Name Only. It refers to schoolchildren who habitually play truant. But, after three weeks of Leland, we ought to have got the message that his basic plots are mainly metaphors for extra-mural polemic.

The slippery truant in *Rhino*, a 15-year-old West Indian girl whose sole object in life, as she sees it, is caring for her abandoned three-year-old nephew, is presented as the pathetic victim of a totalitarian, albeit well-intentioned society, that makes no provision for youngsters who genuinely believe they can survive outside the system. There can be no doubt that the predicament of this ungainly girl engages our sympathy or that there is much

repressed power in Delia McLeod's performance. There is a dispassionate quality about the commentary for A Plain and Sacred Right (tomorrow, BBC 1, 10pm), an *Everman* film about the plight of the Australian aborigine, which will strike you as being exactly what is needed because, everywhere else, the imagery is vivid and violent and wholly subjective. "The law of evolution says that the nigger shall disappear in the onward progress of the white man" (Queensland MP). "When the (oil) drill starts going, it goes into the womb of a mother and we all hurt in our flesh" (aboriginal leader, on the rape of the ancestral earth). "We've been here for 50,000 years, and survived. The white man's been here for less than 200 years and he's virtually buggered up the country" (aboriginal Catholic priest). Peter Davalle

Why Reagan has rediscovered the value of education

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

American politicians - from President Reagan down - are swarming up what promises to be a hot subject in presidential campaign year: education. Mr Reagan's advisers have swiftly capitalized on public concern at reports revealing the spread of duncery. What goes on in the schools is being skillfully fashioned into a national issue.

In an echo of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's call for a return to certain Victorian values, Mr Reagan strikes a chord by telling Americans that old standards should be restored. "School is too easy," he says on tours aimed at establishing him as a champion of better schooling. There should be more emphasis on reading, writing and arithmetic, stricter discipline and more homework.

At a time illiteracy and innumeracy are surprisingly high for an advanced country, and educational achievements, along with teaching standards, are falling, Mr Reagan gets vigorous nods in response to his simple demand for a return to basics.

Last weekend Mr Reagan made education the subject of his weekly radio chat to Americans. He attacked Democrats, including Mr Walter Mondale, who say the government should spend more on schools. "Let's ignore these noise-makers," he said.

The sudden emergence of education as an issue has persuaded the President to drop his insistence that the Department of Education, set up by President Carter, should be dismantled.

Until recently Mr Terrell Bell, his Education Secretary, was a long way down in the Cabinet pecking order, and, indeed, Mr Bell's function was to cut

government education spending and axe his own job. Now education, the Education Department, and Mr Bell, are very much in.

The immediate cause of this was a report by a body set up by Mr Bell himself, the National Commission on Excellence in Education (NCEE). The report, called "A Nation at Risk," was couched in dramatic terms, was a strong indictment of American education.

"The educational foundations of our society are being eroded by a rising tide of mediocrity," it said. It added in purple over-statement: "If an unfriendly foreign power had attempted to impose the mediocre educational performance that exists today, we might have viewed it as an act of war."

The commission reported a steady fall in educational attainment over the past 20 years, said teaching standards were often poor, that there are 23 million illiterate adults, that America is well behind others in education levels.

It said business, industry and the forces have to spend millions of dollars doing what the schools failed to do. A quarter of the men entering the Navy, for example, are unable to read simple safety instructions.

The report backs up others showing that many Americans leave school barely educated, that there has been a decline in standards of reasoning. Half the university entrants in California have to go to remedial English classes. Only a year's study of maths and science is needed for a high school diploma in 35 of 50 states. Only eight state require foreign language studies.

The critics mourn the decline of homework.



On form: President Reagan joins an English class at Knoxville, Tennessee

The Democrats want more spending on education at all levels. It is part of Mr Reagan's philosophy, however, that federal involvement is bad for education, which is why he wanted to close the Department for Education. He thinks schools should be a local responsibility, although polls show people would be willing to pay more taxes for better schools.

Mr Reagan has moved early to meet the Democrats' challenge, making speeches on education and squeezing into schoolroom desks to meet the children.

His "back to basics" call has appeal. So does his proposal

that outstanding teachers should get more money. But the education problem in America is complex and needs more than the President's suggested panacea. As education takes on more political importance, he may have to sit down and do more homework himself and work out a policy.

Education has always been a powerful ingredient of the American dream. But the commission says on excellence, quoting an educationist: "Each generation of Americans has

outstripped its parents in education, literacy and economic attainment. For the first time in the history of our country the educational skills of one generation will not even approach those of their parents."

The United States has had bad school reports before, but this time the politicians have reacted to public anxiety and education has become an issue.

The Democrats, traditionally supported by teachers' organizations, are strongly attacking Mr Reagan on his record on education, criticizing government proposals to reduce federal spending.

Greece takes the EEC chair: Part 2

Equal Europeans - at last

For the next six months Greece occupies the presidency of the European Community. MARIO MODIANO reports from Athens on what the Greek Government hopes to achieve.

The taking over the presidency of the European Community has raised the sense of national pride among Greeks. For the first time in their 155 years of modern statehood they have been made to feel as equal Europeans - not just in name.

If anyone deserves credit, it is President Karamanlis, who for 21 years has championed his country's cause in Europe. But for all its dogmatic commitment against the EEC the Socialist Government of Mr Andreas Papandreu will not approach the task with reluctance. Quite the contrary.

Mr Papandreu has virtually said the big "yes" to Community membership, after some very successful haggling over conditions. He has now decided to put aside any talk about a "special relationship" for Greece, and pursue the solution of problems within the Community and according to its rules.

The presidency has come to Greece at just the right moment. The Community has reached a turning point where drastic changes are called for in some of its basic structures; and current trends could favour Mr Papandreu's call for the elimination of Community inequalities by linking national contributions to gross domestic product.

The Greek Government sees its role as a great challenge. And it is Mr Papandreu's legitimate ambition to give a personal touch to his term in the presidency, even to influence the EEC on its course towards what he calls the "community of the peoples".

There will certainly be difficulties which the Socialist Government's inexperience and contradictions could make more pronounced. Inexperience will



Mr Karamanlis: An exclusive prerogative



Mr Papandreu: The personal touch

undoubtedly impose a heavier workload on the council's secretariat. And there can be little outside help to overcome the contradictions.

The main problem, however, lies in explaining to the party's left-wing and the Communists the dramatic about turn from the Socialist pledge to demand a referendum and urge the people to vote against EEC membership, to becoming no less than the official voice of the "ten".

In a country which expects this year's net benefit from the Community budget to cover about one half of its current accounts deficit of \$2,000m, this should not be an impossible task, were it not for the Government's oversensitivity to Communist criticism.

So we have the paradox of ministers telling party meetings one week before taking up the presidency, that the government could not fulfil its promise to pull out of the EEC because President Karamanlis has the exclusive prerogative of holding national referenda.

At the same time the state radio and television are instructed to play down the extent of Greece's benefits from the Community on the ground that this would distort the overall debit-credit picture.

The Government has promised, for reasons of propriety, not to press for a solution of its own differences with the Community during its term.

However, the Greeks are expected to push hard for approval of the integrated Mediterranean programmes.

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13th Festival
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Songs - Music - Dance - Drama
Classical and Traditional, featuring some of India's foremost artists.
Artistic Director: Bhrendra Shankar
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China honours Deng with new bestseller

Peking (Reuters). - China yesterday published the selected works of Mr Deng Xiaoping, a rare honour accorded only to the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung and a few other senior leaders.

The Communist Party ideological journal *Red Flag* praised the works of Mr Deng who is 79, as "a brilliant book marking a period of great historic change". All national newspapers announced its publication with long front-page articles. The 393-page, buff-coloured volume was available in most Peking bookshops. Sales were steady, but there was little sign of crowds scrambling to buy.

Experts restore ancient robe from warrior's grave

From Mario Modiano

A team of Greek conservation experts has succeeded in leaving and preserving a unique linen garment dating from 1000 BC, found in a warrior's grave on the island of Euboea during a joint British-Greek excavation.

The cylindrical, ankle-length robe had been rolled, twisted, then tucked inside a large bronze amphora with the bones and ashes of the warrior, his sword, a broken spear and a whetstone.

Wall paintings and representations on vases give a wealth of information about the clothes people wore as far back as the Bronze Age, 3,500 years or more ago, and after the seventh century BC. But nothing about the intermediate period which some archaeologists call "the Dark Age of Greece" between 1100 and 850 BC.

"The difficulty lies in the fact that we have no human representations on decorated pottery of that period to help us," Mrs Touloupa said. "They have mostly geometric designs."

The robe, which has been preserved to just over a half of its original size, is still in the laboratory of the archaeological museum in Athens in controlled atmospheric conditions. It will

be put on display after some more consolidation work.

It consists of two sheets of linen in the natural colour of the material. The upper half is of shaggy weave that gives it a fleecy appearance. The borders and the bottom half are plain.

Mr Tasos Margaritoff, who heads the team of restoration experts, said: "The man who wore it must have been a giant in his time". The robe was 4ft 8in long.

The crushed amphora which held the robe and the remains of the warrior, was found in a shaft grave at the end of a vast oblong building of the tenth century B C inside the grave there was the skeleton of a young woman richly decked in gold ornaments, with a great knife by her head.

Dr Hector Catling, the Director of the British School, recently suggested that the young woman might have volunteered to accompany her master in death.

The team of conservation experts from Athens arrived in Lefkandi hours after the discovery of the cloth. They managed to wrap the amphora and its contents in a plastic cake before decay had time to set in.

"It took us four months to unravel that clogged, petrified mass of cloth," Mr Margaritoff said. What helped to preserve the cloth for 3,000 years was its contact with the bronze amphora. "Copper oxides inhibit the growth of germs that cause the cloth to decay," he said.

Next to the shaft grave of the soldier-hero there was another pit containing the skeletons of his four horses.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Ticked off

At yesterday's meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party, Dennis Skinner, MP for Bolsover, had the most practical suggestion as to how the party should run Parliament with its badly depleted numbers. "There's only one way you'll get them here," Skinner said. "They'll have to clock on." And off, observed, for as Skinner himself observed, by the time the meeting ended all 15 elected members of the shadow cabinet had already disappeared.

Unseeding

Residents associations in Wimbledon have started an interesting competition: to guess where the trees and flowering plants that surround the town centre's disused lavatories will be next week. They are strategically planted every year in time for the tennis championships. Regularly they disappear as soon as the tennis is over. The council chairman, responsible is to be invited to judge explanations, in prose and verse, for this unusual call of nature.

● *Audrey Harvey, who runs the consultancy service Rights against Homelessness, received a letter from Norman Tebbit's office. It was addressed to her organization as "Rights against Hairdressers".*

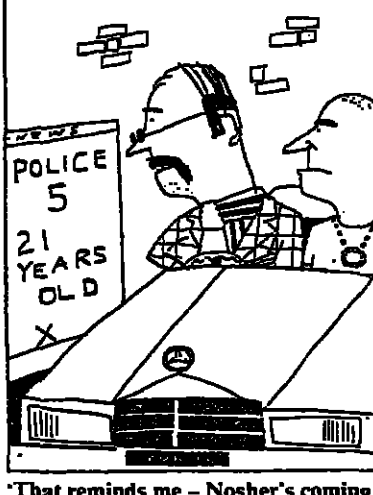
Non-jet set

Frank Borman, president of Eastern Airlines, appears regularly on American television commercials saying that for the past four years, "Eastern has flown more passengers than any other airline in the free world". British Airways, of course, claims to fly more passengers than anyone else. I guess Borman just does not consider Britain part of the free world any more.

First steps

Dancing modestly in the corps de ballet of the Boston Ballet, now appearing in the Mureyev Festival at the London Coliseum, is their own Russian, Vadim Strukov. The reason for his humble position is that he has been dancing professionally for only five months after a complete break of six years. That began when he refused to join the Communist Party at the age of 17 when he was already dancing leading roles with the Kirov, Nureyev's old company. Thereafter he was diverted to television acting. "I wanted to play drunken Cossacks, but was always cast as Russian noblemen who killed themselves in the revolution", he says. He finally left Russia in 1981 and practised for 18 months before returning to the stage.

BARRY FANTONI



'That reminds me - Nosh's coming out next Monday'

Time on his mind

Eric Moonman, the erstwhile Labour MP, took out a subscription to *Time* magazine, tempted by a special offer of a free series of books designed to aid busy executives. The books never arrived. On a business trip to the States in May, Moonman complained to an executive of *Time*, who promised immediate action. He has still received no books, but has got (via the House of Commons, which he left at the election before last) a new special offer from *Time*. This one is for a pen-watch. Moonman says this is obviously to enable him to continue writing letters in pursuit of his books, and to time how long it takes *Time* to respond.

Peering skywards

While the Norwegians continue to hunt mystery submarines in the depths of their fjords, some rihald mirth has been occasioned by the House of Lords notice that the peers' all-party UFO study group is to have a talk next Tuesday on UFOs over Norway. The speaker, the leading Norwegian UFO researcher, is called Knut Aashcin.

Gold digs

West Country landladies are sitting on a goldmine. In America an author is offering seminars on "Start your own Bed and Breakfast". The cost is \$375 (£247) per person, \$700 for business partners. The seminar does include an overnight stay in a B & B, and luncheon and dinner in case you wish to branch out.

The Chinese magazine *Fossil* has made words to say about some of that country's women. They are huge, hairy, big-breasted and Abominable Snow-women, reckoned now to be considerably more abominable than male Yetis, but still, *Fossil* concludes, unquestionably human.

Putting a polish on glass and steel

Charles McKean looks at the controversial work of the new president of RIBA

Any president of the Royal Institute of British Architects worth his salt now has his status recognized by an attack in *Private Eye*. Perhaps that is the result of the intensive promotional efforts of the outgoing president, Owen Luder. Michael Manser, who replaces him, won his accolade from the magazine for a proposed steel and glass office box adjacent to the historic Henley Park. The last time he produced a building of that kind - that is to say, another steel and glass office box - was as an extension to Thorncroft Manor in Surrey. That was of a quality to win him many commendations. As a result, he has been typecast as that most unfashionable animal, the "Arch-Modernist".

It is a typecasting that cannot accommodate the range of work he does, which includes a Heritage Year award for the restoration of Castle Mill, Dorking; nor his current restoration of the huge, crumbling 1830s mansion block facing Hyde Park at Marble Arch.

Manser is an outsider: definitely not a typically institutional man. A former architectural correspondent of *The Observer*, married to a well known design journalist, José, and parent of two more architects, he is principal of a West London architectural practice.

He is reserved, austere and enjoys somewhat abstruse intellectual exercises. However, he is an architect's

architect. His architecture was and still is in the steel-and-glass tradition: for it is infinitely more difficult to achieve a well detailed building in those modern materials than it is to cloak the problem in the Brown Windsor Soup of panicles and rustic brick.

Now he is president of the premier architectural institute in the UK, composed of some 25,000 squabbling, non-institutionally minded individualists whose principal product - modern architecture - is a subject in which the country seems disinterested. Manser's journalistic background has led him to conclude that the media in Britain "has practised aversion therapy. Nobody takes a positive interest in the present or future. If it is modern, they think it has to be ugly."

In the few places where modern architecture is recognized as a subject, it is deemed to be a minority interest: occasionally on an arts page, sometimes a court page; never news, never positive and never on television. It is not that he is seeking praise for the stuff: it is simply that in the total absence of critical attention in the modern world, the public is given no opportunity to participate in, comment on, analyse or study how our modern-built culture is to develop.

On the other hand, there is no shortage of coverage of dead

Reflecting on a glass box: Manser and prize-winning Modernist functional at Thorncroft Manor in Leatherhead, Surrey

architects, dying buildings, and reconduct discoveries by the nostalgists. How different from Europe and America. Manser lives his craft: "You are never bored in the street. Architecture and building affects every major institution in life. It can enhance or depress every human activity. It cannot be a minority interest: after all, archaeologists dig for it."

In the last two years, Owen Luder ensured that architectural politics became news. Manser's priority is more likely to ensure that architecture itself - design and buildings - should become news. One reason he accepted the nomination for presidency was that it will coincide with the 1984 countryside celebrations of the Festival of Architecture. The festival, comprising events such as floodlighting of buildings, exhibitions, competitions, books, receptions and conferences, is the 150th birthday party of the RIBA, and intends as its primary aim to interest the public in their environment.

He takes power at a time when architecture is more invigorating and various than it has been since the mid-Victorian period, an era to which Manser looks back with pleasure: but not to the High Gothic, nor to the "Finger Dribblers in the Cotswolds"; the equivalent, if you like, to our post-moderns and vernacularists.

Manser considers the greatest

Victorian achievements to be engineering - the Crystal Palace, the Palm Houses and the Forth Bridge. He was delighted that one of the inheritors of that tradition - Norman Foster - was awarded this year's Gold Medal. However, he is liberal: although he refuses to adopt pediments and swags, he is quite happy for others to do so. What he detests is for people to impose such things upon him: what he calls the "ghastly good taste of planning committees".

How can an outsider, one might wonder, interested in design and proportion, alter the continuing administrative work and inescapable momentum of a royal institute? Manser is likely to concentrate upon the tip of the iceberg, that which will be visible to outsiders. We are likely to see more of the building; more architecture and architects in the building; more pride and confidence in the future shown through exhibitions and events. In particular, we may have greater access than before to the greatest collection of architectural drawings and the finest architectural library in the world.

As a former journalist, he will undoubtedly use his communicating skill to bridge the gap between architecture and the public. By the end of his term of office, it will be interesting to see how much he has been able to achieve.

Banda's Eton in the bush

Michael Hornsby finds a school where Latin and golf are on the curriculum but whose aim of producing an incorruptible elite could still come to grief

Lilongwe.

About six miles before you reach the town of Kasungu driving north on the road from Lilongwe, Malawi's new capital, you come to a sign with the single word "Monument". Following this, you turn right off the main road and bump and sither for 20 miles along a deeply rutted dirt track, passing only the occasional cluster of desperately poor peasant huts with their overhanging thatched roofs and walls of baked mud.

Just as you are starting to wonder whether you might have misunderstood the directions, you round the corner and the dusty bush abruptly gives way to a new tarmac road running through a gracefully landscaped park of trees and well-watered lawns. You have entered the 400-acre and largely self-supporting estate of the Kamuzu Academy, one of the most remarkable, and controversial, educational experiments in Africa.

The academy, a low building of reddish brick with a central clock tower, first comes into view on the other side of a large ornamental lake as you pass through a pair of imposing gates. Although modern in execution, the architecture, by a clever use of arches and colonnades, evokes the cloistered atmosphere of an Oxford quadrangle or one of Britain's older public schools.

At the school (motto: Honor Deo et Patriae), the personal gift to the nation of Dr Hastings Kamuzu Banda, some 360 young Malawians - and a few Kenyans and Zambians - and two thirds of them boys and one third girls, some of whom have not used a knife and fork or a modern toilet before coming here, are being consciously groomed to be a future ruling class of superior but incorruptible administrators, somewhat reminiscent of the guardians of Plato's Republic.

Founded in 1977 and formally opened by Dr Banda on November 1, 1981, the school is reckoned to have cost 19 million kwacha (£12m) to build, and to be costing about two million kwacha a year to run. The official position is that Dr Banda is financing the school entirely from his private funds, which may strictly be true since he is said to own 90 per cent of a holding company which, through a complicated network of

interlocking shareholdings, controls most of the national economy.

The teaching staff of 37 under the headmaster, Mr John Chaplin, an energetic Scot, are all white and nearly all British. This was laid down by Dr Banda, who believes that Malawian teachers are not yet capable of meeting his exacting educational standards. His "strict instructions" to Mr Chaplin were that he wanted "an old-fashioned school with discipline and exposure to the classics as the main element" and that it was to be run like a British public school.

Dr Banda had to struggle for his own early education and the Kamuzu Academy is built close to the site of the Mthunthama primary school where Dr Banda received his first schooling from Scottish missionaries. Close by, and now a fenced off national monument, is an ancient tree under which he supposedly learnt his alphabet with other black children. It is, so to speak, Dr Banda's Grantham, and like Mrs Thatcher he is deeply proud of what he has achieved from humble origins and champions the supposedly Victorian virtues of hard work and self-help.

The school is divided into six houses, with house captains and 12 prefects who elect a head boy and head girl. The students wear a smart green and grey uniform, and games are an obligatory part of the curriculum. Soccer, rugby, hockey, tennis and squash are among the sports available. There is also a swimming pool and a nine hole golf course. Mr Chaplin tried to persuade his charges to play cricket, but has now gracefully accepted defeat.

As Dr Banda's insistence on great emphasis is placed on the teaching of Latin and the history of the ancient Greeks, Romans and Persians. A fair spread of other arts and science subjects is also taught, and there are eight science labs. French is taught in a well equipped language

laboratory. English is the sole medium of instruction, and there is no teaching of Chichewa, the main vernacular language.

Next week, at the end of the current school year, Mr Chaplin will be returning home to Scotland and retirement and will be replaced by another Briton, Mr Michael Gledhill, who has just spent 11 years as a chief education officer in Northern Ireland and was a former chief inspector of schools in Zambia. Mr Chaplin leaves just as the first finished products are coming off the academy's assembly line.

"Our aim is to produce students who can go to any university in the world," Mr Chaplin says. "And we are hoping to turn out 50 or 60 with two or three good A levels each year." A total of 123 pupils are currently taking O and A level exams for the Cambridge Board. In the next few days their papers will be posted off to Cambridge for marking, and the results will be known in the second half of August.

The most successful of the examinees can hope to be awarded one of the 31 scholarships which the academy has been offered at Manchester, Aberdeen, Sussex, East Anglia and other British and some French universities. It was clear from talking to the students that for most of them a foreign scholarship was the great prize to be aimed for. This has led to criticism that the academy is "creaming off" the brightest students, some of whom might well stay abroad.

Of the 70,000 or so children who complete primary schooling in Malawi, no more than 6 per cent survive the competition for the very limited number of school places. The 60 best students are taken by the academy. This is determined on the basis of performance in a state exam which all would be secondary school students must take. Later this year, however, the academy will also introduce its own entry exam,

including an interview and aptitude tests. Some of the students are as old as 22 by the time they take A-levels because of the late age at which Malawians begin primary school.

In fact, the academy is not quite as ruthlessly meritocratic as it seems, since Dr Banda laid down that each year's intake must include at least one student from each of the country's districts. Maintaining this balance has meant that some of the brightest students do not get in, while some who are not in the top 60 do. The headmaster said, however, that no pressure had ever been put on him to wangle places for the children of government ministers or senior party officials.

The intellectual elitism of the school, and criticism that it is not relevant to the needs of a very poor country, 90 per cent of whose six million inhabitants still live by agriculture, does not worry Mr Chaplin. "A country of this size can afford one model school and this is it," he said. "If (Dr Banda) wants to spend his money on a school like this rather than on military aircraft or gold-plated bath taps I would not quarrel with him."

Other teachers argued that if standards were improved at the top of the educational pyramid, the benefits would work their way down to the base. "Of course, you could not take out kind of education out into the villages," a young English master, fresh from the rigours of a comprehensive in Glasgow and still marvelling at the discipline of his African charges, wondered whether "we may not be breeding a class of both snobs and revolutionaries".

Certainly, the students are well aware of the political undercurrents in the world outside the school on Malawi's one-party state. Teachers report some contempt among students for the often not-so-well educated party officials. Talking to the students, however, one also senses some defensiveness about their privileged position, which is evidently much debated among them. But Mataya Batto, the head boy, was satisfied that there were "enough people" to do the more ordinary jobs. The country needs only a small highly educated people," he said.

per cent. It emerged with 1.1 per cent.

Its policies of opposing economic growth, abandoning nuclear weapons and basing national defence on passive resistance to an invader mirror those of West Germany's Ecology Party, the "Greens". Some of the Greenham Common peace women stood in the election on joint Ecology Party platforms. The party now hopes that a more united British "green movement" will emerge from the present collection of hundreds of small groups.

Tony Jones, the party's campaigns director, sees mass protest as a legitimate and potent weapon. "My guess is that it would probably be prompted by the weapons debate," he said. "Probably the only way in which the cruise missile can now be stopped from coming to this country is for the 30,000 women who 'embraced' the base at Greenham Common to sit on the runway."

Many environmental activists ignore party politics and look elsewhere for hope of reform. The election result will matter little to them, but will drive into their fold some who saw hope in a Labour victory or hung Parliament. Angela Walder, scientific adviser to the British Union for Abolition of Vivisection, said: "We are not in this to play politics, but to get reforms. Time will show if you get them inside or outside Parliament."

Hugh Clayton
Environment Correspondent

Lord Rothschild

A useful exercise, with interest

I come neither to praise nor to bury the think tank; just to make a few fairly obvious remarks about it.

When I accepted Mr Heath's invitation, conveyed by the Cabinet Secretary, Sir Burke Trend (as he then was), to become the first head of the think tank, I had no idea what it was intended to be or do, in spite of the characteristically sonorous prose in which its future activities were described in the inevitable White Paper. Nor did anyone else seem to have much idea; such phrases as "long term strategy", "trans-departmental problems", "not the rate of exchange", or "not the Office of the White House" were being handed round. We spent quite a time during the first six months arguing about what we were supposed to be doing and, if the members of the tank had no other virtues, they certainly knew how to argue.

The arguments, however, were quickly and abruptly interrupted by instructions from the Prime Minister who, at very short notice, requested us "to take an interest in" a Rolls-Royce engine, the RB211, for not more than 24 hours. I shall explain the curiously opaque phrase "take an interest in" a little later.

We had an excellent meeting, on D-day, Sir Burke injected into the tank Dick Ross, the distinguished economist and two young, top-class civil servants, John Mayne and Robin Butler. In one case, the injection was made somewhat earlier than D-day. It never passed through our minds, of course, that any of these had been planted in the tank for more Byzantine or Smiley-esque reasons. Had that been the case, some of us knew a bit about turning people round, and round.

I was not particularly convinced by the *bons mots* of CPRS member Robert Wade Gery - "sabotaging the smooth working of the Whitehall machine" - or of Dick Ross - "thinking the unthinkable". From the start, it seemed to me that our job was to analyse problems and proposals, and for that we needed excellent analytical brains: so that was what I tried to get. I thought we needed about 16 graduates, half from within the Civil Service and half from outside. But so small an organization made it essential to have outside consultants, so we built up a network of these, none of them paid. When, for example, we "took an interest in" the British computer industry, the team consisted of three members of the think tank and two outsiders, one of whom was Brian Flowers, at that time chairman of the Computer Board. The other, I say rather archly, came from within the government service.

At that time some emphasis was placed on the need to brief each Cabinet minister about matters which were not the concern of his or her department but on which the Cabinet was expected to make decisions. The idea was that as the Cabinet was collectively responsible for such decisions, it might be a good thing for its ministers to know a little about the subjects on which agreement or disagreement was sought. Accordingly, the think tank prepared what were called "collective briefs".

Dick Ross had a genius for preparing these, which more often than not consisted of half a page of apparently innocent questions which one minister might put to his colleagues. All this sounds fairly pedestrian and obvious; but quite frequently ministers were rather unconcerned about matters which had no special interest for their department. I remember sitting next to a Cabinet minister at a Cabinet Committee meeting and improperly reading the brief he was given by his permanent secretary. It said: "5. This item is of no interest to you." Collective briefs were intended to counter such parochialism. I said earlier that I would explain

the peculiar phrase "taking an interest in". When the think tank first came into existence, and for a long time afterwards, people were very curious as to what we were doing, and we were tormented by questions from all quarters. "Victor, if forced by circumstances to answer," Sir Burke said, "you may say that the Central Policy Review Staff is taking an interest, or has taken an interest, in such-and-such a subject. That is as far as you may go. You may not say that you are writing a report on any subject, nor that you have written one."

We did our best to conform with these instructions but of course we were sometimes tricked. At other times leakages were ascribed to the tank when in fact they had come from elsewhere. On one occasion, when we were under attack for leaking, Donald Maitland, then the No 10 press secretary, strongly and successfully defended us.

It is hardly necessary to say that the most efficient way of fairly or unfairly damning any Whitehall institution is to accuse it of being "leaky". But can the CPRS be blamed if a minister accidentally leaves his brief-case in Tante Claire's? As I am on the subject of leakages, I believe they would be an excellent subject in which the think tank, or rather a think tank, could usefully take an interest, with, of course, recommendations and I have some ideas as to how to reduce leakages. If anyone is interested they are welcome to what have been held, on various occasions, to be jejune or impracticable ideas.

Well, what did we take an interest in? What asked this question? On this occasion I asked myself, and some of us knew a bit about turning people round, and round. I was not particularly convinced by the *bons mots* of CPRS member Robert Wade Gery - "sabotaging the smooth working of the Whitehall machine" - or of Dick Ross - "thinking the unthinkable". From the start, it seemed to me that our job was to analyse problems and proposals, and for that we needed excellent analytical brains: so that was what I tried to get.

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Jonathan Sale

Enlightenment at the end of the tunnel

The Miracle Distribution Center of California is calling me, not, fortunately, to the West Coast but merely to West London. Stock Enterprises, a 24-hour exorcism service run by a friendly witch called Elizabeth St George, demands my attention. How can I resist the lure of the I Am Institute of Applied Metaphysics, or the Inner Light Consciousness, or again the Findhorn Foundation, growers of psychic cabbage so large that the cry of "Timber!" goes up when they are cut? "Easily," I would have said once, but not any more.

Today they are playing my tunes at Olympia and will continue to do so until July 10, the last day of the Mind, Body and Spirit Festival 83. In the early years of the festival, I used to drop in and write a few words from the viewpoint of a complete outsider; but gradually I have felt myself drawn in to the lifestyle for which it is a showcase. Unwillingly, like a crime correspondent finding himself enrolled in the Richardson gang. And I am not yet a fully paid-up member. I am not totally convinced by every word uttered by Dr Chuck Spezzano, who lectures on "A Home Owner's Guide to Other Lifetimes - bring in desired attributes from other dimensions". One day, perhaps.

It is a slippery slope from giving up butter to attending talks by Rose Gladden on "Healing with the Clairvoyant Faculty" in which she "examines distortions in the energy fields of members of the audience". When we first married, long before the festival began its annual occupation of Olympia, we actually had butter on the table. Realizing that this was the way to end up with arteries like a banger's exhaust pipe,

we rapidly switched to the ideologically approved type of margarine.

White bread was the next to go, replaced by authentic wholemeal. We also have to ask for countless offences involving the improper use of white sugar (we used to swamp the tea with it) to be taken into consideration. That went next. By this time, two years or so ago, we joined in what was becoming a stampede, although we were unaware of the other stampedes, towards homeopathy. Since this form of medical treatment holds that the smaller the dose of a remedy, the stronger the effect, it is not exactly in the mainstream of BMA theory. But it clearly works in practice, unlike much of the snipped-down NHS.

I am not quite ready for The Dragon's Head Centre of Holistic Medicine, based in the Canary Isles and at Olympia for one week only; but it can only be a matter of time. That last organization should not be confused with the Dragon Project on the magical powers of ancient sites, the coordinator of which will be talking about "Earth Lights and Ancient Knowledge" - inexplicable forces as a possible explanation of UFOs.

That too leaves me on the cold side but I keep telling myself that one should remain open to new ideas, so long as those ideas do not include (for reasons which involve libel lawyers as much as anyone) the Scientologists. I would rather the Dianetics Information Centre - an alias of Scientology - was not lurking on Stand D2. I hope it's not there next year, but I shall still go to the Mind, Body and Spirit Festival 84. In fact, I shall probably have my own stall.

150 من الامان



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

RIGHT AND WRONG IN DIVORCE

"I think it thoroughly unjust to turn out this father, but justice no longer seems to play any part in this branch of the law". With these words the County Court Judge in *Richards v Richards* ordered a husband out of his home in order to allow his wife to return there with the children. When the Court of Appeal upheld the order, on the ground that the needs of the children were paramount, there was widespread concern. Now the House of Lords has reversed that decision.

The effect of the House of Lords ruling is to oblige a judge faced in future with an application for a matrimonial order to dispense justice in accordance with the parliamentary prescription contained in section 1 (3) of the Matrimonial Homes Act 1967. This means that the order should only be made if the judge thinks it "just and reasonable" to do so, and in reaching his decision he is required to have regard to four specified matters: the conduct of the spouses to each other and otherwise; their respective needs and financial resources; the needs of any children; and all the circumstances of the case. No one of these matters is necessarily of more weight than the others, let alone paramount over them, and the weight which each of them should be given must depend on the facts of the particular case.

The reassertion of the relevance in these cases of factors

other than the needs of the children, including the conduct of the parties, is a welcome development. The previous line of authority culminating in the Court of Appeal's decision, which gave absolute precedence to the children's welfare, had created a risk of abuse by the spouse who was better placed to look after the children, and it was capable of producing results offensive to the sense of justice of ordinary men and women. It is important that our matrimonial law should have the confidence of the public.

The opportunity for the courts to investigate conduct in cases of this kind is in fact very limited. Applications for matrimonial orders are frequently made quickly upon the filing of a divorce petition, are usually urgent, and more often than not are genuinely needed to protect a spouse from violence. The urgency of the case and the pressure of other court business normally makes it impossible for the judge to mount anything like a full-scale investigation into the merits and demerits of the parties' behaviour towards one another. Instead, he can only form a provisional view, necessarily on limited material. If it then appears to him that the situation in the matrimonial home is such that it really is quite impracticable for the spouses to go on living under the same roof until matters are resolved by the divorce, but he does not feel that he is in a position to assess the parties'

respective shares of responsibility for that situation, it is right that the children's interests should decide the question who should stay in the house.

In cases such as *Richards v Richards* itself, however, where the judge does form a clear view of the merits of the case as between the parties but the children's needs point in another direction, it is right that he should take the merits into account in deciding what is just and reasonable. Where, for instance, a wife moves out of the house, taking the children with her, and then applies for an order as part of a strategy to strengthen her position in the later custody and financial proceedings, or in order to install her lover in the matrimonial home, it is hard to see how welfare considerations could ever be allowed to prevail over the requirement of justice to the father.

The reaffirmation of the relevance of conduct in cases involving matrimonial orders has its parallel in the Government's proposed new divorce legislation, which would require the court, before making a financial order, to have regard to the conduct of each of the parties, if that conduct is such that it would in the opinion of the court be inequitable to disregard it. The effect should be to produce a matrimonial law more in accordance with the expectations of ordinary married people.

LORD HOME AT EIGHTY

Mr Arthur Balfour was Prime Minister when Lord Home of The Hirsel was born, eighty years ago today. There is something to be said for the connexion, since they both served as Conservative Prime Ministers and then went on to serve as Foreign Secretaries under somebody else's premiership. They both also inspire an aura of easy command which is not what we are now accustomed to from the inhabitants of Number Ten.

Perhaps the pace of government has genuinely quickened since then, perhaps not. We do not have to agree entirely with the wit who said: "Prime Ministers nowadays are too busy to do much harm" to notice that the inhabitants of Number Ten since 1964 have been endowed with many qualities but not with that one which seemed to distinguish Sir Alec in his office — a certain peace of mind. It is true he was at Downing Street for only 365 days. That was certainly not long enough to behave like one of his predecessors, Lord Rosebery, who felt so confident of his future that he had a book-plate printed with the words "Rosebery, 10 Downing Street" engraved upon it, but

it was long enough for all to see that he was not a man to be hurried along.

Sir Alec as premier sported a more relaxed style of leadership than was even then fashionable. The same caricaturists of the 14th Earl, the matchbox economist and the grouse moor image have their contemporary target in Mr Ronald Reagan. In both cases, as one would expect, appearance and reality are not the same.

When Mr Wilson, as the apostle of the white heat of a technological revolution, moved into Downing Street, the scumbler telephone remained a fixture at The Hirsel. The new boy had discovered that his predecessor was rather more skilled a statesman than he had been prepared, as Leader of the Opposition, to admit, and he might have need of his advice.

They now both belong to that very exclusive club of ex-premiers — five in all. Whatever their differences they have one thing in common, which is to have held supreme responsibility for the nation's affairs. It is said that power corrupts, yet the curious conventions and restrictions of cabinet life, and the "banana

skin" law of British politics have kept Downing Street clean enough compared to other seats of government.

However, even as only a first among equals, the Prime Minister occupies a lonely eminence. That is what the ex-premiers have in common and each in his different way has shown how he was affected by the loneliness of power. As one would expect of a life-long fisherman and naturalist, Lord Home seemed least affected by the solitary nature of his position. Perhaps a man who can spend hours in or on the water, casting and waiting for that elusive catch, is not a man to be lightly troubled by the superficial impatience of the political scene.

Lady Home has changed her name four times since she married Lord Dunglass, but her husband today is still very much the same man, whatever the change in nomenclature. It has been that quality of consistency which has secured him such a singular place in public esteem. It is said that nothing is more difficult than to be at the same time conspicuous and respectable. Lord Home, at eighty, seems to have found a way.

Islamic divorce law

From Mrs Aminah Fathil
Sir, As a Moslem woman I have followed with interest the correspondence on Islamic divorce law following your leader (May 20) on the subject.

Syed Aziz Pasha (June 23) I believe may himself be creating an erroneous impression when he states that the Moslem wife always gets a fair deal under Islamic law. Theoretically, of course, he is correct, as the Koran lays down very specific conditions for divorce and its enactment which favours the woman and upholds her rights. However, there do exist ways in which Islamic law can be flouted and especially so if the husband should live outside the jurisdiction of the British courts, for as things stand at the moment British law has to power to uphold the rights of the Moslem wife.

My concern is that the forthcoming divorce legislation will be totally inadequate to meet the needs of women unless the issue is debated within an international framework so that many more Moslems are being married in this country.

At present, a Moslem couple wishing to marry in Britain are only permitted to go through a religious ceremony at a mosque provided they prove to the imam that they are first married in a registry office. This is in accordance with British regulations which, so I am reliably informed, are there to protect the interests of the woman, or if her husband were subsequently divorced her, theoretically she could be protected by British law.

This is based on the assumption that at the time of her marriage she was a resident of this country. Unfortunately, as is often the case, the majority of these married couples eventually return to their countries of origin and by so doing are the jurisdiction of the British courts. Divorce then becomes much easier for the husband and for the wife almost impossible.

Even were the wife to obtain satisfaction through the British courts, to which she is legally entitled to apply, it would mean nothing in the husband's country as he could ignore any ruling in her favour. Therefore, when the British

Parliament debates the new divorce Bill the sections dealing with Islamic divorce should reflect concern for all Moslems married in this country.

May I suggest, too, that prior to debate there be consultations with the legal authorities of the Islamic states so that, hopefully, in time they will all agree to cooperate with any new British legislation. Then, and only then, will the Moslem wife truly get a fair deal.

Yours faithfully,

AMINAH FATHIL,
79 Shorebourne Court,
186 Cromwell Road, SW5,
June 29.

Saturday shopping

From the Reverend David Garlick

Sir, A family — husband, wife and five year old boy, members of my congregation — went on a monthly shopping expedition in Lewisham High Street last Saturday (June 18). Having spent £41 at the freezer store, the husband made out a cheque and produced his bank card — only to be told by the manager that his signature did not sufficiently match that on the card. They decided to leave the goods which they had intended to purchase. The wife and child waited outside the shop whilst the husband went to fetch their mini-metro to pick them up. When he returned his wife was surrounded by police who demanded his bank card which it was alleged was not his and might have been altered. The husband protested that the allegations were not true.

A small crowd began to gather and more police were summoned. Some five police vehicles in all turned up. The husband was arrested and taken away in one of them.

His wife telephoned me from home and we went to Catford Police Station where she had been told her husband had been taken. He was not there and further inquiries traced him to Deptford Police Station. I phoned and was told no one could see him; I left my number and was phoned back almost an hour later by an inspector who fortunately I knew. I explained that they were a most reputable family for whom I could vouch.

Within the next hour, after the

police had been to the house and checked that the card matched the bank statement my parishioner was released, with an apology, after three hours in custody. During his time in Deptford he was handed a leaflet from Lewisham Council for Community Relations explaining his rights and giving a telephone number, so that a counsellor/friend could visit. Despite a request to do so, however, he was not permitted to telephone.

Next day a police inspector and sergeant called on him and apologised for the mistake. On Monday the superintendent telephoned me, thanked me for my assistance and explained that an apology had been made. This demonstrated a sensitivity, at least in the higher levels of the Metropolitan Police, which was welcome if belated.

I wonder whether a white family would have had to undergo such an ordeal on a family shopping expedition. I hope not, nor should this black one.

Yours faithfully,

DAVID GARLICK,
Lewisham Vicarage,
40 Lewisham Park, SE13,
June 22.

EEC accountability

From Sir Anthony Meyer, MP for Clwyd North (Conservative)

Sir, My colleague, Tony Marlowe (June 28) incessant demands for Britain to repudiate its EEC obligations were overwhelmingly rejected by the electors and represent only a nuisance element in the new Parliament. If the Government now decides that a larger EEC budget would be in Britain's interests, since we would be getting much more back from it than we do now, Parliament will not object.

It is true that an expanded EEC regional policy would mean that the Community would spend more and the British Government less; it might also mean that the British taxpayer would cease to subsidise people to move out of our large cities, through regional grants, and then subsidise them to move back again, through transport grants and rate-support grants.

I am etc.

ANTHONY MEYER,
House of Commons,
June 28.

Deep divisions on unemployment

From Sir David Lane

Sir, May I applaud and support Mr Francis Pym's message in his House of Commons speech yesterday (report, June 30), especially the references to unemployment?

Those of us who worked on the doorsteps for a Conservative victory at the general election can have been in no doubt about the hostility felt by some of our fellow-citizens. In various ways Britain today is deeply divided.

No aspect of this disunity is more worrying than the contrast between those with jobs and those without. The demoralising disaffection of unemployment is most obvious in multiracial areas like Brixton and Toxteth, where young blacks are even worse hit than their white contemporaries. But the blight has spread much wider than these areas.

Youth unemployment is a growing industry to the National Association of Youth Clubs (of which I have recently become chairman) and to other organisations concerned with helping young people throughout the country.

The Government need to go further than the perfunctory phrases in the Queen's Speech if their commitment to reduce unemployment is to carry conviction.

Yours truly,
DAVID LANE,
5 Spinney Drive,
Great Shelford,
Cambridge,
June 30.

From Mr Ian Clarke

Sir, The difference between Popper and Hegel is one of time: thesis and antithesis are allowed to coexist according to the latter; according to the former, hypothesis and counter-example follow one upon the other.

Likewise for two Tories who are both representatives of one common viewpoint, Mr Pym is right to stress the tradition of care for those who cannot support themselves. Mrs Thatcher's achievement is to emphasize the need to have the wealth before one can use it beneficially.

For Popper the question is the relative precedence of observation and hypothesis. For a Tory who wishes not to see his leaders squabble, the question must surely be: "How can one spend money one has not got?"

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
IAN CLARKE,
10 Lamington Street, W6,
June 30.

Feeding Roman troops

From Professor J. C. Mann

Sir, On the question of the supply of food to the army of Roman Britain, Dr Webster's letter (June 29) requires some amendment. British agriculture did, in fact, "allow for trading surpluses". Corn, cattle and hides were among the chief exports before the Roman invasion of AD43, as Strabo indicates.

The invading army brought with them merely enough grain to tide them over the invasion period itself, further supplies from Gaul probably being kept to a minimum.

There is no evidence that "Britons had by law to produce grain". The Britons did so because the price paid by the Roman authorities was so generous, at least in the first and second centuries, for material compulsorily purchased, that the Britons were more than willing to comply. Only when the price paid failed to keep pace with the great inflation of the third century did the supply become a burden.

Nevertheless, as Dr Webster remarks, the vast sums spent by the Roman government to supply their army in the north brought great prosperity to the inhabitants of what is now northern England, a prosperity which vanished with the end of the Roman military occupation.

Yours sincerely,
J. C. MANN,
Professor Emeritus of Roman-British History and Archaeology,
University of Durham,
1 Grange Road,
Durham.

On a clear day

From Mr J. H. Jones

Sir, In answer to the question asked in one of the first letters on this subject, both sides of England can be seen from Cross Fell (2,893ft), the highest point in the Pennines.

On the west the Solway is easily visible, but seeing Tees Bay in the east, 30 miles away, needs ideal conditions, though at night the lights of Middlesbrough can often be seen.

Walkers on the Pennine Way (which is routed over the summit) might be lucky enough to see the mouth of the Tees whilst standing on its very source, Cross Fell.

Yours faithfully,

J. H. JONES,
Moar End,
Knipe,
Askham,
Penrith, Cumbria,
June 25.

Waiting for 'The Times'

From Mrs A. E. Middleton

Sir, Mrs Forsyth (June 25) asks what "they" are doing in Newcastle. I cannot answer for the DHSS but many of us are busily occupied each day collecting *The Times*, which persistently arrives too late for the paper boy to deliver.

As the fastest train time from London is now reduced to 2hr 59min, we in Newcastle wonder what "they" are doing at 200 Gray's Inn Road?

In haste to catch the train,
Yours faithfully,

ANNE MIDDLETON,
St George's Vicarage,
St George's Close,
Jesmond,
Newcastle upon Tyne.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Perils foreseen in return of hanging

From Professor J. C. Beckett and others

Sir, We are all historians, who have studied and in most cases written on modern Irish history. Those of us who are not British by birth have lived in the United Kingdom for many years. All of us have a deep affection and concern for the peoples of Britain and Ireland, utterly condemn paramilitary violence and wish to see peace in Ireland. We represent a cross-section of opinion, from those who want to keep the union with Great Britain to those who want a united Ireland.

It is for others to discuss the morality of capital punishment. We wish only to express an absolute conviction — based on our knowledge of Irish history — that the execution of Irish republican terrorists will play into the hands of the Provisional IRA and the INLA.

Anti-British sentiment in Ireland has always been fuelled by judicial killings in a way which might seem incomprehensible over here. The leaders of the 1916 Easter rising were to a considerable extent inspired by the vivid accounts in ballad, prose and poem of executions of Irish rebels.

The rising itself was carried out by a small body of people whose action was initially condemned by the majority of Irish public opinion. Once the leaders were shot, they became martyrs and the consequent swing of opinion in their favour led to war. The example of these "martyrs" has been the inspiration of the militant nationalists in Northern Ireland.

The recent increase in electoral support for Sinn Féin is closely linked to the wave of emotion following the deaths of the hunger strikers. The effect of an execution of a terrorist would be far greater. It would not only bring about the alienation of a large part of the middle ground, but would have a disastrous effect on Irish-American opinion, with a consequent increase in moral and financial support for the IRA.

Capital punishment of Irish terrorists will be an inspiration, not a deterrent. The hunger strikers chose death voluntarily. There would be many in the paramilitary ranks prepared to offer themselves for the martyrdom and immortality that would follow execution by British authorities.

Likely subsequent developments would be revenge killings and an

escalation of bombings and shootings in Northern Ireland and Great Britain: one undoubted result would be a massively increased popular support for violence. It is certain that even one execution will lead to many more deaths.

We beg members of Parliament to act responsibly and spare innocent British and Northern Irish people unnecessary violence and suffering.

Yours etc,

J. C. Beckett,
Paul Bew,
George Boyce,
Alan Briggs,
Patrick Buchanan,
Owen Chadwick,
Owen Dudley Edwards,
Ruth Dudley Edwards,
G. R. Elton,
M. R. D. Foot,
Ray Foster,
David Hartmann,
E. J. Hobsbawm,

Brian Inglis,
Robert Kee,
Maurice Keen,
Angus MacIntyre,
Nicholas Mansergh,
Rosaleen Mielke,
Conor Cruise O'Brien,
Thomas Pakenham,
John Raftery,
A. T. Q. Stewart,
Charles Townshend,
J. A. Watt,
John Whyte.

40 Pope's Lane,
Ealing, W5,
June 27.

From Mr John Alliot, QC and others

Sir, Unless plans are changed, Parliament will be debating in July whether capital punishment should be re-introduced as the penalty for some or all murders.

We are barristers practising in the criminal courts. For some of us, experience goes back to the days when capital punishment was the mandatory sentence for all murders: all of us were in practice when it was the mandatory sentence for some murders.

We are opposed to its re-introduction for any murders, either as a mandatory or discretionary penalty, because we believe:

1. It is wrong in principle.
2. It will not significantly deter homicides.
3. It will hinder rather than assist the conviction of the guilty.

4. No judicial process is perfect: it is possible to compensate the victim of an unjust imprisonment but not the victim of an unjust execution.

Yours faithfully,

John Alliot,
Anthony Arlidge,
Rodger Bell,
David Cooks,
Neil Denison,
Richard de Cans,
Michael Gale,

Michael Hill,
Dun Hollis,
W. M. F. Hudson,
John Marriage,
Clive Nicholls,
Colin Nicholls,
Brian Pryor.

1 Crown Office Row,
Temple, EC4.

Imprisoned in Thailand

From Ms Joe Parham

Sir, P. J. Barlow's letter (June 24) suggests that if British prisoners convicted in other countries were allowed to serve their sentences in this country, this would amount to failing to back campaigns conducted by opium-producing nations against the insatiable demand for narcotics.

Mr Barlow rightly says that the Thai government came under considerable pressure from Western governments to take a much tougher line with drug traffickers. The Americans took the lead in this, but they also took the lead in negotiating the first bilateral prisoner transfer treaty with the Thai government.

The basis for the treaty is similar to the one signed between Canada, Mexico and the USA. As Mexico is also an opium-producing country it is of interest that Mr Peter Bensinger, then administrator of the Drugs Enforcement Administration,

testifying before the Senate, said:

"I support this treaty without reservation... with respect to the treaty, I don't believe that this will impede the DEA and the Mexican police in their effectiveness in curbing the narcotic traffic, and in particular the heroin traffic."

The bilateral treaties negotiated by the governments of the USA, Canada, France and Italy (so far) with Thailand are very far from being "guarantees of safe passage home". Just as in the case of the Council of Europe's Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons, all three parties have to agree to a transfer — i.e. the sentencing state, the home state and the prisoner.

The Thai government is to be congratulated on its initiative. We would urge our own government to bring the UK into line.

Yours faithfully,
JOE PARHAM,
National Council for the Welfare of Prisoners Abroad,
374a Upper Street, N1,
June 28.

Wayward water

From Mrs Christine Speight

Sir, Just when your erudite correspondents have successfully analysed and explained the Coriolis effect on plug-hole vortices it falls to a mere lay-person in such matters hydraulic to muddy the waters.

On Saturday, June 18, at 3.30pm, a disturbing phenomenon was observed and witnessed. This happening throws considerable doubt on all the theories so far advanced and, indeed, may well indicate para-normal intervention in the correspondence columns of your journal.

On the Kennet and Avon Navigation at Tyle Mill, Sulhamstead (Ordinance Survey 1:50,000 Sheet 175, map reference 625690) there is a run-off weir into a nearby stream. This has a steady flow of water uninterrupted by any turbulence. But two yards to the west there is also a small ancillary outlet, no more than 18 inches wide. On that date and time mentioned there were observed in this outlet two simultaneous small vortices, one clockwise and one anticlockwise, divided by a smooth flow of water.

Is it now clear that, unless your

correspondents can suggest otherwise, the equator does not circle the globe through Africa, Singapore and Brazil, but runs north and south through Berkshire. Such is the effect of having Aldermaston for a near neighbour.

Yours faithfully,

CHRISTINA SPEIGHT,
44 Aylmer Road, W12,
June 22.

Correct bearing

From Mr Francis Smilby

Sir, Accepting as correct Dr Humberson's explanation of the Coriolis force (June 27), surely the best place to aim is at the tip of the polar bear's right ear. The bullet will then pass centrally, and harmlessly, over the bear's head, following the line of recent correspondence, it hopelessly strikes the hunter squarely at the base of the skull, thus preserving not only polar bears but sanity.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

FRANCIS SMILBY,
Trumpets Farm,
Bodley Street Green,
Hailsham,
Sussex,
June 28.

Gogol play

From Mr Michael Beresford

Sir, Anthony Masters, reviewing the production of Gogol's *The Government Inspector* at the Royal Exchange Theatre (June 25), describes the textual adaptation by Gerard McLarnon as "a right dog's breakfast". Having spent many years editing the original text, I write to draw attention to the fact that this play, the greatest classic of the Russian theatre, is invariably presented to English audiences in a debased and distorted form. Material is added to or deleted from the carefully wrought text in an utterly cavalier fashion, the structure is often altered, and new scenes and even characters are sometimes introduced.

The original is not a farce, nor are its characters grotesques; it is a serious satirical comedy containing a great variety of styles and presenting vividly portrayed characters, some — not all — of whom are mild caricatures.

Gogol warned against playing for laughs, but his words go unheeded and the play usually degenerates into a cheap knockabout farce, with rude words and smutty hints added for

good measure. Ironically, by presenting such travesties of this "immortal comedy", the Russians call it, our producers display the very superficiality which is one of Gogol's prime targets.

While the plays of Chekhov, Ostrovsky, Gorky and others are given in straight versions, this dramatic masterpiece is foisted on our public in a vulgarized form that is an insult to the intelligence of the spectator. There has probably never been a play in the whole history of the theatre so persistently murdered, mutilated and misrepresented as *The Government Inspector*.

In recent years much perceptive criticism of it has appeared in English, all of which is waiting to be used by someone adventurous enough to look at the play as something deeper and subtler than a theatrical romp. Is any producer in this country willing to take up the challenge?

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL BERESFORD,
Department of Russian Studies,
University of Manchester,
Manchester M13,
June 27.

Landscape design challenge

From Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe

Sir, Plans for London Docklands now being formulated by the development corporation show the energy that is being directed to this vast project — the greatest ever of its kind in England. Designs by architects commissioned for individual areas are singularly human and attractive, nor is there any reason why, in principle, these ideas should not be translated into fact.

The challenge to landscape design is tremendous. Two and a half centuries ago the English landscape philosophers revolutionized the idea of the relation of man to environment. Today another English revolution is quickly taking place, finding expression and recognition, not only in England itself but throughout the Continent. What is this new approach to landscape, and why is it so significant? Is it being recognised in the Docklands?

In the Dockland proposals the germ of twenty-first century landscape thought already exists, almost invisibly in two grand and novel concepts: firstly, of overhead perspectives, such as the one from Greenwich Park to St Anne's, Limehouse (aerial avenues replacing the ground avenues of history); secondly, of an overall green framework to combine with the river to make a unified whole.

But of more concern is the detailed co-ordination and design of the public open spaces themselves. E. V. Rieu wrote of Virgil that he opened a window to Romans

"through the poet's perception of certain realities that underlie our relation to the world about us". The green spaces of Docklands could be such windows, not merely satisfying the citizen by a return to nature, but (which is new) giving subconsciously a sense of reassurance, identity, dignity and meaning to himself as an individual in a world fast passing his comprehension.

There is an abundance of talent and expertise waiting in the wings that should have been involved from the start — landscape designers to make visible the invisible. That is the responsibility of art, and of landscape most of all.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY JELICOE,
19 Grove Terrace, NW5,
June 30.

Covent Garden plans

From the General Director of the Royal Opera House

Sir, Mr Gavin Stamp (feature, June 29) has suggested one possible use of the Floral Hall within the further development of the Royal Opera House. His article, however, starts with a misunderstanding we have not yet chosen an architect, and deliberately so.

We recognize that the next stage of our development will have a significant effect on the Covent Garden piazza, on Russell and Bow streets and on the Royal Opera House itself. There are many interests to consider and many possibilities. We



2,3
Travel: Falling in love with rural life in the land of St David; a passport through the manners and mores of the Soviet Union today

THE TIMES Saturday

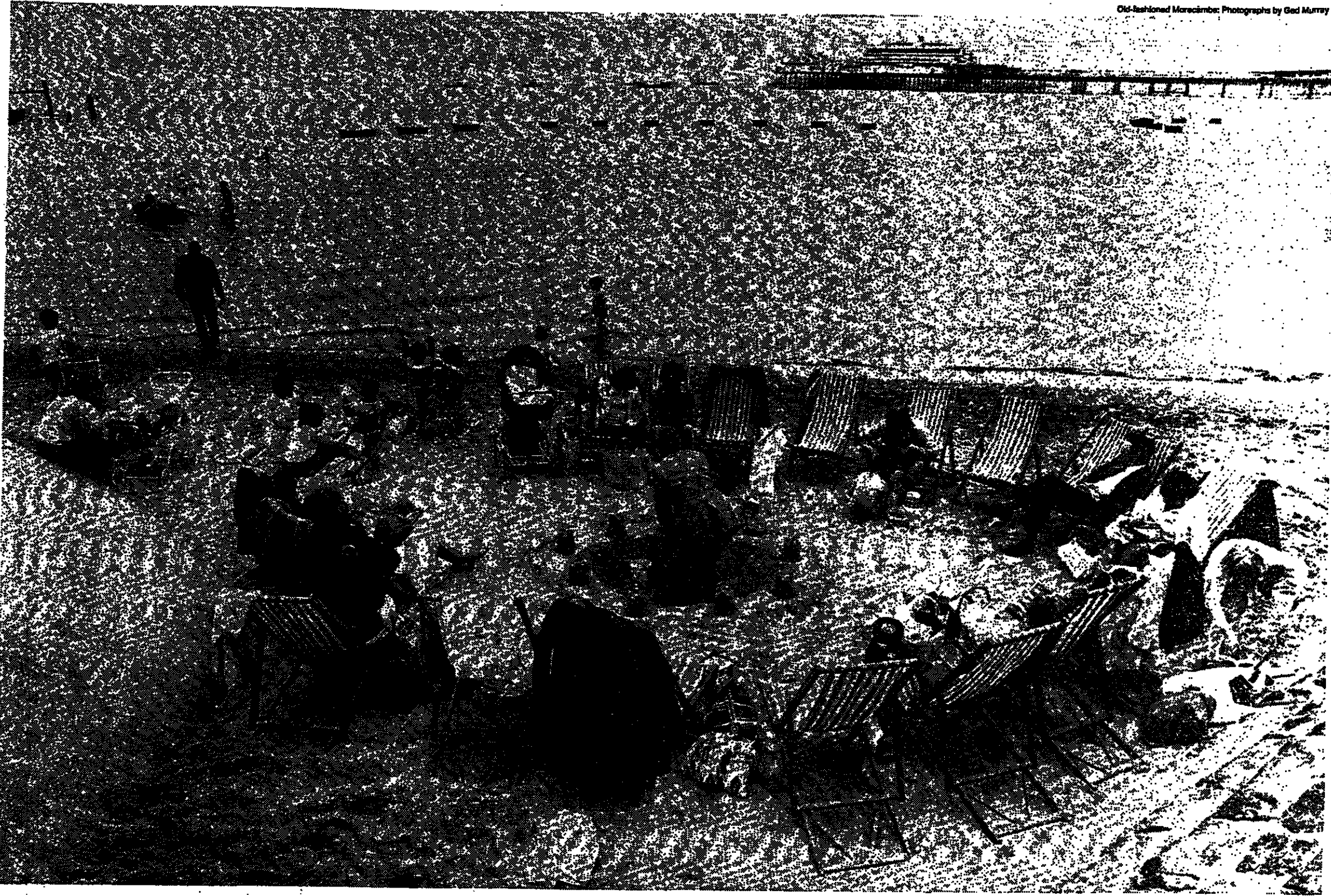
4,5
Values: Bedding down extra guests; Shopfront; In the Garden; Rock records of the month; Drink; Collecting; Theatre and Galleries

7,8
Films: Eating Out; Design; Critics' choice of Music and Dance; Family Life looks at children's art; Bridge; Chess and The Week Ahead

2-8 JULY 1983 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

High and dry as the holiday tide turns

There is still a deep-seated streak of conservatism in British holidaymaking. Those who pop across the Channel in the Volvo estate to discover a sweet little *gite rurale* in the Dordogne, and even those who flock from Luton to the guaranteed sun and the less guaranteed hotel comforts of Majorca still form the minority. Between 1974 and 1981 the proportion of British holidaymakers taking their holiday abroad rose from a quarter to just over a third, but that still leaves nearly two-thirds who holiday without leaving these shores. In 1981 British tourists spent an estimated £1,300m in England, and of that 36 per cent was spent at the seaside. But the seaside market is at best static, and in the less fortunate resorts in slow decline. Alan Hamilton begins a two-part series with a visit to Morecambe, one of those less fortunate resorts



Old-fashioned Morecambe: Photographs by Ged Murray

We were engaged in backstage discussion at a small east coast seaside theatre with a company of seasoned troupers from the summer show circuit, extolling the pleasures of playing live theatre against working men's clubs, where singers of tender ballads are obliged to engage in competition for the audience's attention with the bingo caller, the beer waiters and broadcast announcements about the imminent arrival of hot pies. Where, I ventured, in all their treading experience, was their least favourite coastal venue? They looked at each other conspiratorially for a mere second, and the lead comedian announced in a stage whisper: "Unanimous. It's Morecambe."

Morecambe suffers not so much from bad weather, or Amazonian landladies, or daylight robbery, or even from a sea which recedes almost to New York at low tide, as from comedians. It is a perfectly decent sort of town, clean, neat and respectable, if unlikely ever to figure in any guide to great urban architecture of the world. It is neither seedy, nor elegant, nor self-confidently vulgar. It has never been anywhere much. Musky Morecambe, they used to call it, but that referred to the mudflats of the bay which the town has to suffer in place of a sandy beach. They also used to call it Bradford-on-Sea, because the residents of that city would traditionally decamp *en masse* to this particular spot on the Lancashire coast for their two-week annual holiday, to be followed by equal numbers of Glaswegians, according to legend, descended on Morecambe because it was the first resort they came to across the English border, and they liked to boast of having been to a foreign country.

The numbers may be fewer now, but the pattern is not entirely broken; the Bradford *Telegraph* and *Argus* and the *Glasgow Sunday Post* are still on sale at most seafront news stands. It was fine in the days when industrial workers sought from their one annual holiday mere escape from their dark satanic mills, went to the seaside and stayed there, demanding the simple pleasures of sun, fresh air and cheap beer. Morecambe was, above all, cheap. It still is; the town abounds with £7.50 a night guest houses, but is seriously deficient in hotels of three stars or above. The promenade retains an old-fashioned air of those days which is not without its charm, if rather lacking in thrill. It isn't everywhere these days that you come across a street photographer with a monkey. Two rival palmists vie to read the lifelines from opposite sides of the street. Gypsy Lavengro proclaims that she has been consulted by prominent people all over the United Kingdom, while Gypsy Sarah challenges anyone to prove that she is not the real Gypsy Sarah. I do not come from a moment, where I doubt her, impersonating a palmist is not a charge that packs out the magistrates' court on many days of the week.

Even the amusement arcades seem not yet to have heard of the video game revolution. The most ubiquitous machine is that enticing glass-fronted cabinet full of tenpenny pieces on a moving shelf inviting you to insert the last coin which will knock off all the others into your expectancy cupped paw. Always in the arcades there seems to be a diminutive Artful Dodger waiting to pick up the coins which cascade on to the floor. They do so very rarely; amusement arcade operators are not among those who are crying loudest with the pain of the recession.

There are, however, signs enough of times that are both hard and changing. Morecambe once had two piers, but one blew down in a storm six years ago and probably will never be rebuilt. On the remaining pier, last year's summer show starring the singer Malcolm Vaughan closed up early for lack of business, and this season there is no show booked at all. The Winter Gardens theatre in the town centre has stood empty since 1977, and only one summer show remains, starring an entertainer of strictly local reputation. Summer shows have become a risky business, particularly in places like Morecambe, whose clients are more used to the familiar informality of the working men's club atmosphere, and would rather be entertained by a small name in a hotel lounge than by a big name at the end of the pier. Well, you can't get a pint in the middle of a theatre show, can you?

Sophistication is not a word which springs readily to the lips in any discussion on Morecambe, but sophistication is not what everyone wants. Untrammeled enjoyment radiated from the faces of a couple aged seventyish that I watched at the end of the pier on a baking June morning, barely a week ago, as, with the place almost entirely to themselves, they executed an immaculate waltz on the open-air dance floor to the accompaniment of a record player. He had the tall erect figure of de Gaulle, between his open-toed sandals and his white peaked cap. She was shorter, in bright orange cotton print and one of those green eyeshields that used to be obligatory in bad American movies about nooz-

papers. They danced with such grace that I half expected them to turn round and display numbers on their backs. Cheap beer and open-air dancing may have satisfied an undemanding clientele in the past, but they are no longer enough to attract new business to the town. It must not be imagined, however, that Morecambe has been entirely idle in trying to keep pace with more demanding tastes. The funfair, a branch of the bigger and more celebrated one on Blackpool seafront, and which once claimed to have the biggest roller-coaster in the world, has invested £2.5m in the past three years to update its rides. Aided by a £1m infrastructure grant from Brussels, the council recently invested a similar amount in building a seafront leisure complex (leisure simple would be a better description) centred on a swimming pool. But they made one fatal mistake in the planning: the swimming pool is open-air. Throughout recorded history Morecambe has experienced the occasional shower of rain, so the pool, while well patronized while the sun shines, is empty on wet days and throughout the winter. Needless to say, the council runs it at a loss; local authorities seem outstandingly inept at making money out of fun.

Local authorities by the seaside also tend to be deficient in market research, and all too often have little idea where their customers come from, or why. So I conducted some of my own, and rapidly concluded that the overwhelming reason for coming to Morecambe was force of habit. They had been coming for years, often to the same boarding house. Because there is relatively little to attract the young, Morecambe's clientele tend to be the middle-aged and elderly who are not big spenders, and because of its relative lack of sophistication and its preponderance of low-priced accommodation it attracts the social class most cruelly hit by unemployment. The English Tourist Board's estimate of 1983 holiday intentions reckons that over 40 per cent of C1-C2 adults will take no holiday at all this year; that, however, is a fractional improvement on the past three years. Low-priced accommodation does not necessarily mean bad accommodation. Alban Roberts was quite apologetic at having to charge me £13.50 for a superbly clean and comfortable night's bed and breakfast in his private hotel in Thornton Road, and £5.50 for a splendid dinner. Morecambe, in his view, sold

itself far too cheap; there was no future in staying downmarket. His own answer has been to reduce the size of his hotel, two terraced houses knocked into one, from 17 rooms to six, and to concentrate on his restaurant, which at least offers him the hope of year-round business from locals in need of an evening out, a wedding reception, or a company function. There is no shortage of boarding houses and small hotels for sale in the trim back streets of Morecambe, an indication of bad times but also an indication that too many people take on a boarding house as a quick means to easy money, rapidly to discover that it is nothing of the kind. Tastes have changed: Morecambe has 12,000 serviced beds and 8,000 self-catering beds; it should be the other way around. What Alban Roberts and his fellow hoteliers have noticed in the past three years is that the season they could once be assured of has become markedly shorter. Once they could rely on a steady trade from the spring bank holiday to the end of September, but this year, as at the same time last year, they are still waiting for the season to begin in earnest. holiday is one of the last sacrifices to be made. One young couple (yes, a young couple was sighted in Morecambe) gaily admitted that they paid for their holiday by the simple expedient of not paying the mortgage for two months. "We've just taken it out, and it lasts for 25 years, so who's going to worry?" they said cheerfully. Dare I suggest, the building society?

Such comic licence is a gross calumny upon a seaside resort which has spent most of its life trying to prevent people from comparing it with Blackpool. Anyone who has ever been to Morecambe knows perfectly well that the traffic lights change every day of the week. Yet within the custard-pie jokes lurks a small, hard, uncomfortable nugget of truth. It is a long time, it must be said, since Morecambe inhabited the first division in the league of fun experience, even if it did have illuminations long before Blackpool thought of them; they lined Morecambe prom with candles in 1918 to welcome back the boys from the trenches.

And as for this current fad for health, fitness and sports, the traditionalists never went much for that either. Morecambe had all they needed: five miles of dead flat prom with ample oases for refreshment both liquid and solid. The smell of Morecambe prom is not of the sea. It is of chips, ale and the wafting aroma of Concorde, which is not a boy's tobacco. For those who want it, the traditional British seaside holiday most certainly survives at Morecambe, donkey rides and

all. Two weeks of relentless inactivity can, still be had at knockdown prices, with the added thrill of a stiff initiative test every time it rains. The comedians are a little too hard on the place. The bodies in the bus shelter are not dead at all; they are merely waiting for the pubs to open. And in late summer Morecambe does put on a very respectable display of illuminations. Although this year they will cost only one-sixth of the gaudier lights of Blackpool, they don't half put the traffic lights to shame.

But perhaps the biggest factor of all in the decline of the traditional two-week-in-the-same-seaside-spot British holiday is not the recession, or the Spanish package, which is still too much an adventure into the unknown for a great many people, but the car. People are restless, need to be up and doing, and now most have the ability to do so. That could be one of the keys to unlocking some kind of a future for Morecambe. "If we continue to sell ourselves as a traditional resort, we will be down the plughole in no time at all," admitted Tom Flanagan, Morecambe's publicity director. So now the emphasis is on the town as a centre for touring, which could be unkindly interpreted as only having to come back to Morecambe when it's dark.

"We are not," said Flanagan disarmingly, "what you could describe as a resort with super-duper entertainment facilities." So they try to promote little festivals - bowling festivals and folklore festivals, which are no substitute for the whole of Bradford descending on them, but are an attempt to capture a share of the fastest-growing section of the British holiday market, the short break. The seaside is not getting its share of the short break market, particularly out of season. People naturally assume, and with some reason, that outside the high season, the seaside is shut. But even that other most traditional of entertainments, the weekly heat of the Miss Great Britain contest, is not enough to prevent Morecambe from having to turn its back on the sea to find what future markets it can. Morecambe and Lancaster, once sworn foes, have since 1974 been part of the same municipality, and it is the historic and hitherto largely unpromoted attractions of the inland city that will form the basis of next year's marketing thrust. If I were a real rolled-trouser, knotted-banky, seaside traditionalist, all that history would smack a bit too much of education for me. Did not seaside holidays used to be for the specific and serious purpose of shifting the brain into a very positive neutral?

But even that other most traditional of entertainments, the weekly heat of the Miss Great Britain contest, is not enough to prevent Morecambe from having to turn its back on the sea to find what future markets it can. Morecambe and Lancaster, once sworn foes, have since 1974 been part of the same municipality, and it is the historic and hitherto largely unpromoted attractions of the inland city that will form the basis of next year's marketing thrust. If I were a real rolled-trouser, knotted-banky, seaside traditionalist, all that history would smack a bit too much of education for me. Did not seaside holidays used to be for the specific and serious purpose of shifting the brain into a very positive neutral?

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Affairs in heaven's own language

Richard North

lost his heart

and learnt the

true meaning

of the word

'cariad' when he

visited Wales

As love affairs go, it had a peculiar beginning, and I should have known it for the holiday romance it was. But who can tell these things at the time?

It began in a field at Croesgoch, near St David's, in Pembrokeshire, or Dyfed, and at a ploughing match to be exact. Our motorhome was far away the smartest vehicle around: modern farmers boast four-wheel-drive Japanese trucks, which the tax man buys for them, but the last shreds of natural modesty make them get their workhorses good and muddy for the Saturday afternoon out. As treasured antique tractors ploughed their academic furrows, and brows were knitted over the turn and lay of the sod, we repaired to the back of the cattle truck where bottled beer and whisky were being slipped down prodigiously.

A man remarked that we should go to "the singing" at Croesgoch Baptist chapel that Sunday night. We would be welcome, he said, though the service would be in Welsh. For some reason we had expected a sort of gothic devotions, combined with a maudlin mistiness, in the Welsh: why did they insist on being open, friendly and charming wherever we went?

We were being beguiled.

The journey in the toe of Wales made in the company of a burly ecologist - had been to find a piece of soggy otter country in the West Cledau river system and to explore Downog Common, a wet heath which has been puzzling and delighting naturalists as the wet-footed tundra landscape has yielded more and more secrets to them. On the way we watched - with a growing sense of the indecency of our voyeurism - while a grey seal suckled her pups in a cave in a cliff, just across the water from Skomer Island.

We had arrived at Fishguard, one of those enchanting seaport towns which millions of people know as a hopping-off place for Ireland and which is always longing for them to stay. There, one Friday night, late but moderately orderly, we had experienced a "singing" in the saloon bar, with a great crowd scrumming around an electric

organ, with outlying parties at tables taking up the descants. National hymns rubbed shoulders with the Captain and Tenille.

Emboldened by the good humour we had been shown, we asked the minister if we could attend Sunday service at the Hermon chapel in the town. This is one of those bright-faced buildings which you somehow imagine enrich Vermont: it has an almost end-of-the-pier brightness of pastel greens, and tall windows. Inside, it is as bright as a sunny wedding dress.

Yes, we could go.

So, nursing tremulous hangovers from the profane singing, and with a whispered translation from a splendid ex-teacher, home to retire after a lifetime's service dinningsome sense into young English heads, we heard the Word.

Sparing nothing, the minister stopped his Welsh halfway through the service and spoke to us in English. He wanted to welcome us, and then moved swiftly on to remark that he would soon be returning to his native tongue - "the language of Heaven". Who were we to complain? Especially when the children of the gathering assembled and faced the crowd,

the little ones standing on the backs of the pews, and gave us their little pieces of Welsh homily. "Gwyn eu byd y rhai pur o galon", ("blessed are they that are pure of heart"). Literally translated, "white their world, those pure of heart" said one tiny, reading it out from a secret. Bird's crawl on her palm, and some of the weakening grown-ups reached for hankies. And then the youngsters left us and the minister went on to his sermon: "Love, hell-fire and brimstone" they expected. Just barked, again and again: "Love", whispered the

school teacher for our benefit. We were as putty in their hands by now. The next day a farmer took us for a walk over his wet meadows. They were rich in streams and yellow flags: a living monument to the way some farmers do still care for the wild things which grow on their land, and should be loudly celebrated for it. No better place for that celebration than St David's, the twelfth-century cathedral enfolded in a little valley, with a stream to keep it company. At the top of the steps from the village you make almost a bird's acquaintance with its roof. Down on the ground, the old pile follows the contours of the terrain: you walk uphill to the altar. It is a very organic sort of building (owing part of its shape to an earthquake for instance). It mounts a powerful assault on ungodly scepticism.

And so an evening wander down to the Pembroke Coastal Path. It sounds like the invention of some bureaucrat of the countryside: it is actually, in places, a hairy, unfenced romp alongside great cliffs the colour of dried blood. They look as though they had been cut in some immense, celestial brisket. St Non, having been raped by

a fellow local aristocrat, the Prince of Ceredigion (who was in most other respects a saint apparently), laid herself down in a cliff-top meadow on what was to become St David's Head, and - with the surrounding rocks cleaving themselves in sympathy with her agony, and one of them taking an imprint of her pain-clenched hand - delivered herself of the infant St David.

These are the sort of hagiographic features which litter the best landscapes.

We walked on to Porthcrais, one of the steep, close harbours which made this coast busy as well as dangerous. Every cargo from lime to the Bishop Elvis, who baptised St David, and the stone for the cathedral was landed here, brought across perilous seas (in 1859 a single gale claimed 143 ships off the Welsh coast, nine of them sunk in two days on the 20 or so miles from St David's to Cardigan).

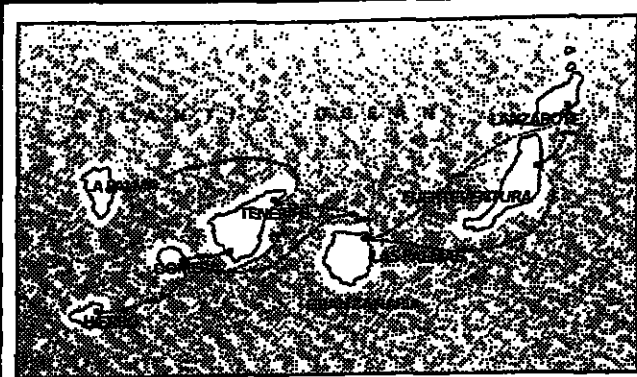
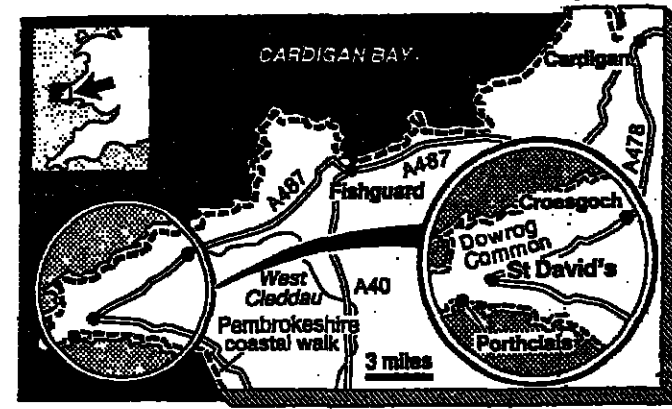
By the time I was perched in the gallery of Croesgoch chapel that evening, and the farmers and teachers for miles around were swelling out the harmonies into the gloaming, you could fairly say I was a goner.

Up and down then, over the next few months, between London and that curious paradisaical spot which is half heaven and half earth. Having this or that place surveyed, pondering on the virtues of such and such a farmhouse. Checking that the locals would not burn the place every time we turned our backs. Finally I had found the cottage where my family and I could live out our days. And the triumphal day came when I showed it to the wife.

Hopelessly poky, she said. Too far from London.

End of story. Do wives end all love affairs thus abruptly?

Shelter from the stormy blast: The picturesque seaport of Fishguard where song may tempt the traveller to stay



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The Canaries. Seven magnificent islands just waiting for you. And to think you thought you knew Spain.

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Perhaps.

Today we call them the Canaries. Famed throughout the world for their temperate climate and exotic National Parks, each island has its

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If you think you know Spain, think again.

SPAIN

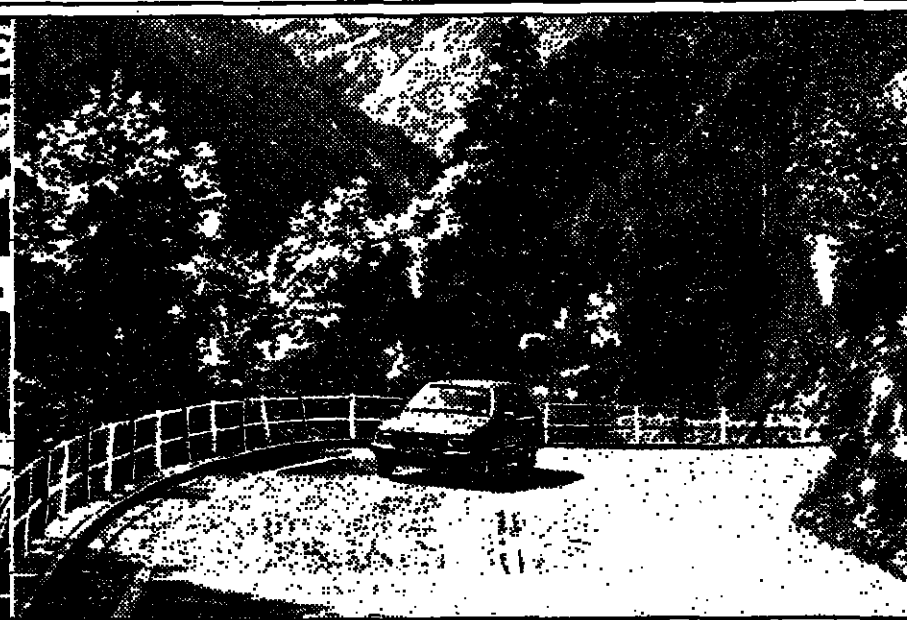
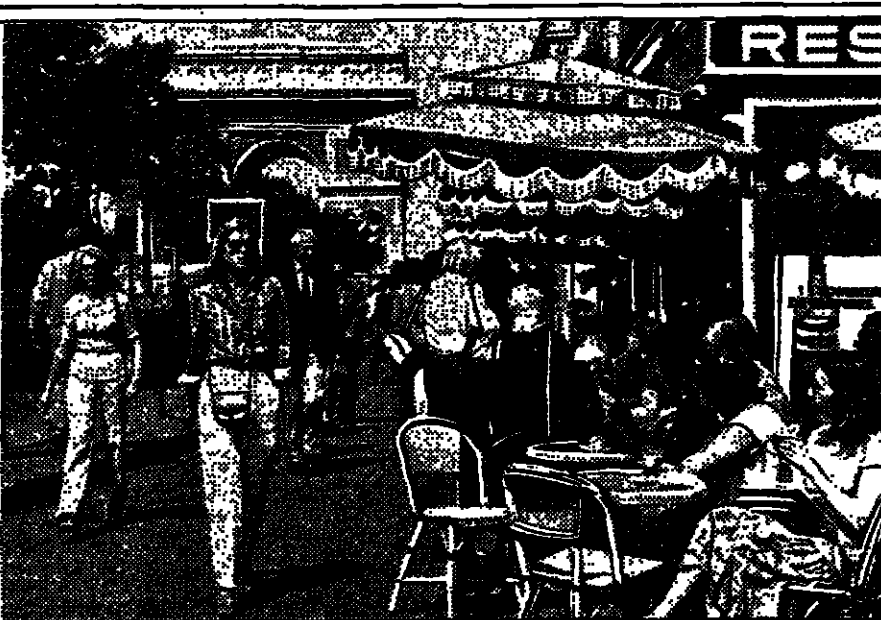
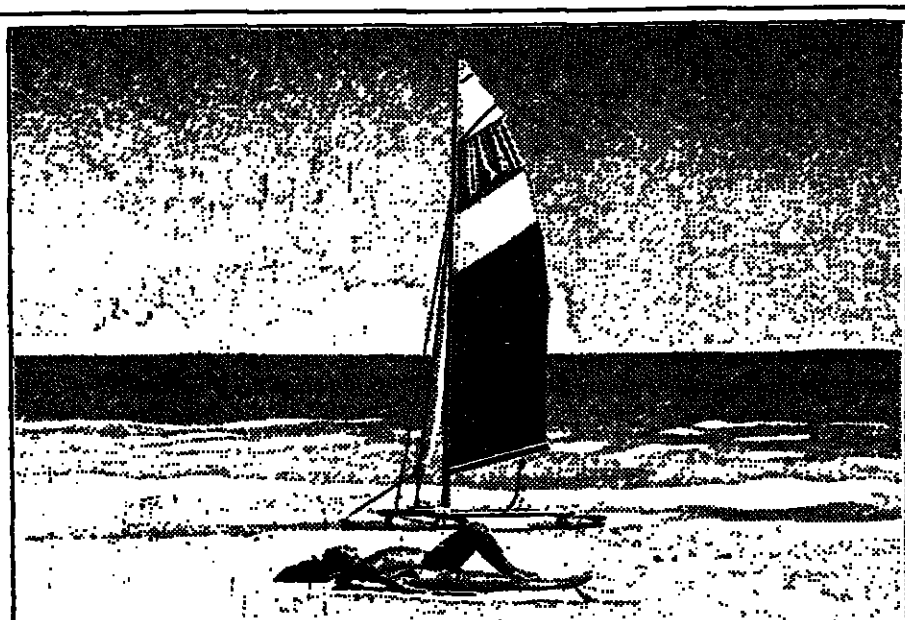
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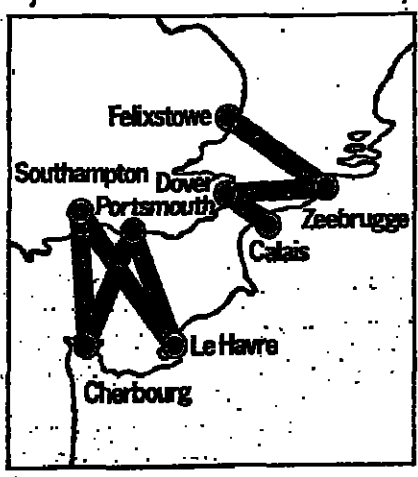
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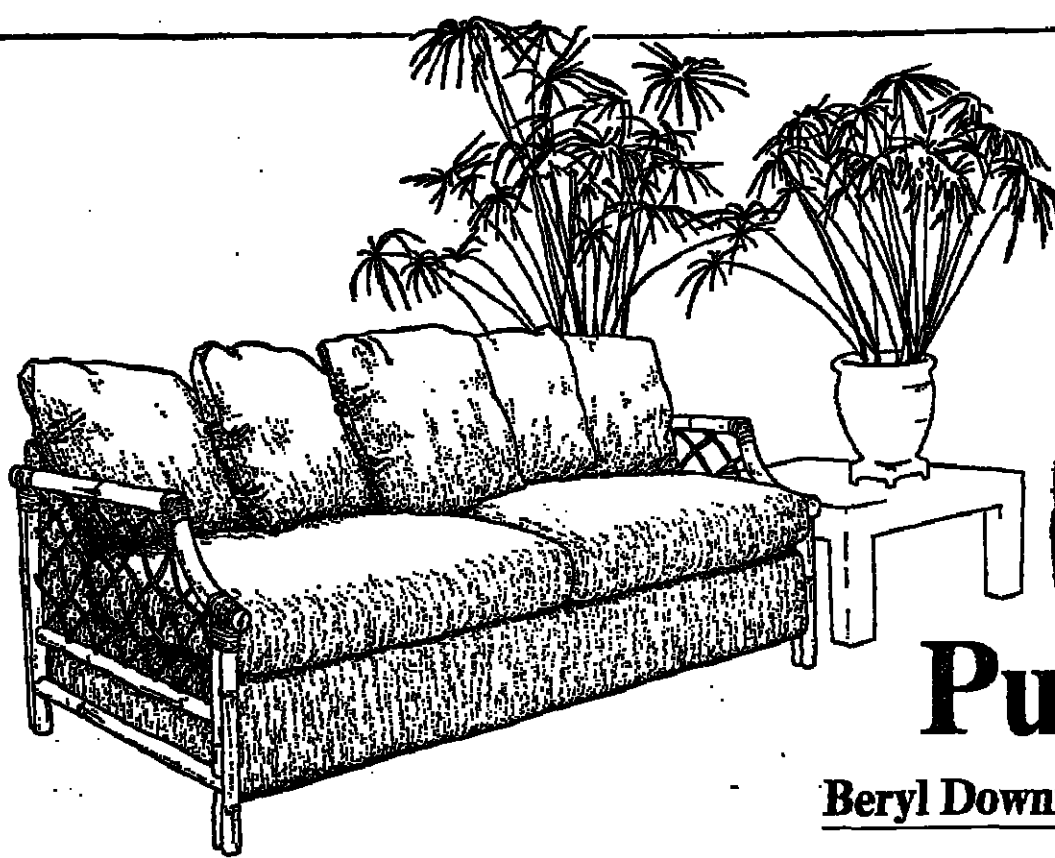
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VALUES



Put-up job

Beryl Downing's pick of the sofa-beds

When summer is a-cumin' in so, too, do all your sisters and your cousins and your aunts and their children and your in-laws and that homeless Australian your daughter met in Delhi last year. No wonder the sofa-bed business is on the increase.

Last week the London Sofa-Bed Centre doubled the size of its Tottenham Court Road showroom by taking over the shop next door. This is the third expansion in six years. A year ago Sofas and Sofa Beds opened at 219 Tottenham Court Road, and in April Laura Ann Sofas, specializing in sofa-beds and matching sofas, opened at 13 George Street, W1, and 130 Notting Hill Gate, W11. In Jordan Place, SW2, a shop under construction is proclaiming that it is about to open as Sofa So Good. In the beleaguered furniture industry, that is not just a trend, it's a boom.

For years sofa-beds were synonymous with the Put-up - unlovely, uncomfortable and associated with houses too poky and overcrowded to accommodate guests. But by the late 1970s other influences began to affect the concept of the dual-purpose bed. The property boom had provided spare rooms for many more people, and cheaper air fares to America and closer contacts with Europe brought more visitors from countries with more apartments, who were used to a large range of sofa-beds.

There was also a growing

public awareness of the importance of combining function and aesthetics in design. All this meant that someone, somewhere, would have to design a comfortable, good-looking dual-purpose bed.

That someone was Wally Allanswick, a furniture designer who was unable to find a sofa-bed that pleased both his eye and his back and so designed his own dual-purpose bed. With his partner, Arnold Rey, he opened the first Small Sofa-Bed Centre in Hampstead in 1977, a larger one in Fulham Road in 1980 and the third in Tottenham Court Road last summer.

They say there are four main groups of customers: young occupiers of what used to be called bed-sits and are now known as studio flats (which doubles the price, but not the space); families with children who want to fold the beds away to give more play space; older couples furnishing holiday cottages or second homes; and hotels, following the trend in the United States, where double bedrooms often have a sofa-bed for children.

What sort of beds do they choose? Inevitably, the customers in the youngest group look first for the lowest price tag and two store groups are making concerted efforts to bid for their attention - House of Fraser and Waring & Gillow and Maples. House of Fraser has just launched its new Lifestyle furnishing department in D. H. Evans in London and

Rackhams in Birmingham. Two more open next month in Army & Navy, Camberley and Maidstone. The accent is on colour and coordination - inter-connected departments brought together on one floor.

The Danish sofa-bed Lifestyle offers is called Scan-Home Duet (E195) with removable washable covers in a red and black print. In about a month they will have two new British-made two-seater sofa-beds, one in a grey, brown or green print, the other in plain grey with red trim, or red with grey. Each will be £279.

Waring & Gillow and Maples' bid for first-time furnishing can be seen in 21 of their stores, where they have



The no-bed bed: Two interior sprung mattresses without a base, used in tandem as lounging area during the day. By Interlube £567.50 at Heals

introduced Young Living departments with an emphasis on inexpensive storage and seating in colourful finishes and fabrics. Their Danish sofa bed (E349), called Angela, has a removable cover in brightly coloured plain, printed or candy-striped cotton.

An alternative form of dual-purpose bedding is the futon, which is finding favour with increasing numbers of young buyers. The Futon Shop, at 267, Archway Road, N6, has now opened a second branch at 654a Fulham Road, SW6, selling futons made in the traditional Japanese manner in natural, organic materials.

For space savers, futons have the advantage that they roll up

during the day into a sort of monster bolster which serves as a floor cushion. They are 3½ in thick and come in five sizes from 3ft 3in x 6ft 6in (E43.75) to 6ft 6in square (E89.75). Cotton covers are available in seven colours. Telephone the workshop (01-729 5007) for more details. They can arrange delivery anywhere.

Also with young people in mind, Interlube have introduced Duo - two softly rounded interior sprung mattresses which sit on top of each other on the floor. They make a low, informal reclining area during the day and can be separated to provide extra sleeping space when needed. Singles are £567.50 to order from Heals, Tottenham Court Road, W1.

For customers with second houses, smart London flats or suburban semis, or people of retiring age moving to a smaller house, the new conventional sofa-bed comes in a variety of guises. The London Sofa-Bed Centre has one of the largest collections on display - at least 200 in stock for immediate delivery or to order in other fabrics or customers' own material.

Most have interior sprung mattresses, which is an important point if you plan to use the bed regularly for sleeping as well as sitting, and prices range from £295 plus fabric for a classic low backed two-seater to £661 plus fabric for a queen size three-to-four-seater which can be used as modern, unit seating.

Sofa-beds that look like real furniture: Brighton, left, £465, Isleham £455 double, £437 single. Fabric is extra in all cases. From the London Sofa-Bed Centre

SHOPFRONT

Small businesses in a very big way.

Window cleaner Keith Padmore is taking steps to enter the retail business. In fact he's already planning his next shop. Salisbury's, however, need not fear - his shops are all old-fashioned, hand-painted and about 14in square. He first saw a Victorian model butcher's shop in the Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood and decided to try to make a similar one for his two small daughters. But when an antique dealer friend saw it, beautifully carved and hung with hand-painted miniature joints of meat, the little girls didn't get a look in. They are still waiting for a shop of their own. Since the butcher's, there has been a grocer's, a baker's, a tobacconist's (pictured), a herbalist, a hat shop, toy shop, and a tea and coffee parlor. A couple of weeks ago Keith Padmore took a stall in Camden Passage, Islington, London, and within hours had no stock left. Nobody but Keith was surprised. Miniatures have a perennial fascination and his are made with careful attention to detail and have the same period charm of the originals which were first made commercially in the 1850s. He now spends his mornings in his atelier and his afternoons replenishing his stock of shops. Each one takes four weeks to

make - chipping away with a Stanley Knife. "I keep thinking of buying a little lette and some tools", he says "but every time I get enough money together I put it away as I'm saving up to go to America". Each shop is mounted behind maple-framed glass, because these models, at £200 each, are for collectors rather than for children. But because the first thing I wanted to do was open the case and touch the little scales and boxes of cigars, the Mark II versions can be made with hinged glass fronts for those who feel the same way. All shops are made to order and you can contact Keith Padmore at 19 Ray Walk, Andover Road, London N7, (272 4641).

Shaping up at the stencil school

Interior decorators can lag and roll as they did last summer, but I am going to spend my holiday learning how to stencil. Lyl Le Grice, who is the leading expert in modern stencil techniques is running her first summer school this month. When she revived interest in the art of stenciling in 1976 she brought the technique up to date by adding an extra dimension - the use of aerosol paint - and her courses will teach the design, drawing up and cutting

of a stencil and its application to plaster, wood and fabric. Each five-day course (July 18 to 22 and 25 to 29) will be held on the campus of the College of St Paul and St Mary, The Park, Cheltenham, and the fee, including materials, will be £120. Accommodation is available for £14.50 per day, inclusive of meals, at Chaffin Hall, near by. Booking forms are available from Lyl Le Grice at Wells Head, Temple Guiting, Gloucestershire (045 15 200).

Handy and effective barrier

Those who cannot bear to wear rubber gloves for cleaning and washing may like to know of an effective but gentle barrier cream that will help to prevent hands becoming ingrained with dirt and wrinkled from soaping. It is made by Martin Hill, whose skin-care products are the kindest I have ever used on my dry skin as they are all made from natural ingredients. The barrier cream is

available for £5.50, post free, from The Old Vicarage, Loxton, near Corby, Northants (Gubick 259). Readers who miss Martin's ebullient presence since the gave up her shop in Marylebone High Street will be relieved to know that she is back in Upper Wimpole Street, giving advice by appointment on the use of her products. (485 3145)

IN THE GARDEN

Cuttings from a regal beauty

As a perargonium enthusiast, I always feel there is something special about the regal perargoniums. They are derived from *Perargonium x domesticum* and, when well grown, are magnificent plants either for the home or conservatory. Cuttings are taken during July and August. Select short, jointed non-flowering shoots from the plants you intend to increase, and with a sharp knife - this is important to prevent tearing or bruising - remove a shoot with three leaves as well as the growing tip. Trim away the lower two leaves, it may be necessary to remove the third as well. Beneath each leaf is a small shield-shaped stipule, which should also be removed with the sharp knife.

The cutting is now ready to go into the compost. I prefer to use 3in pots or Jiffy 7s. These are a little more expensive but the results are good. Use Levington compost in the pots. Before inserting dip the cut end of the cutting into a hormone compound. Try to ensure that only that part of the cutting up to the next node is in the compost. Rot sometimes sets in if you insert too deeply.

Place the pots on the open greenhouse bench; if the sun is very hot during the day cover



Perargonium Zonale: Good winter blossoms

with newspaper. Do not put in a covered propagator or cover with a plastic bag. Perargoniums prefer to dry out a little and root better this way. Rooting should take place in less than 21 days.

Cuttings taken now will not flower until next year. Although it is possible to rush this programme, it is not for the amateur. Aim to be potting on into 3in pots around September or October, after which the cuttings will overwinter quite successfully in this size pot.

Last year's cuttings should now be short, sturdy plants

which have flowers formed and may in some cases be showing colour. By using a little more heat in the greenhouse over winter, it is possible to have perargoniums in flower before July.

Regal perargoniums must be fed regularly during the growing season, particularly when the buds have formed and flowers are apparent. They need to be kept well supplied with nutrients from the time the buds begin to show colour, and once they are in flower, a high potash feed should also be applied. Little and often is the principle to follow: a weak liquid feed once a week is the way to get the best from these plants.

Water is vital. These grow to big plants and they need a vigorous root system. Never allow the plants to dry out until they wilt; this is harmful, and in some cases they never recover. Water in the early morning or late evening. Do not wet the foliage if the plant is in full sun. Wait for the evening, or the sun to go down, before syringing the foliage - the plant loves this.

Pests are many, but the one to worry about is whitefly. Not only does it weaken the plant, but the white clouds which rise from the plants when they are

touched are an unpleasant sight. Use an insecticide with Malathion, BHC or Resmethrin as the active ingredient.

There is a wealth of varieties to choose from. Some of the best are: "Aztec", which has pink flowers with brown markings; "Grand Slam" (crimson and scarlet with red markings); "Lavender Slam" (lavender with purple markings); "Clown" (white with upper petals marked red); "Applause" (bronze with pink markings); and "Robbie Hare" (salmon deepening to deeper salmon).

Or why not try "Ashley Stephenson", new last year, with creamy pink petals with a wavy-bronze blaze on each petal? All these are available from Fibrex Nurseries, Harvey Road, Evesham, Worcester-shire. Plants cost between 75p and £1 each, with the exception of "Ashley Stephenson", which are £1.50 each.

Specialist societies are well worth joining. Details of the British Perargonium and Geranium Society are available from the honorary secretary, Mrs M. O. Salmon, 1 Mayfield Close, Badshot Lea, Farnham, Surrey.

Ashley Stephenson



Roses

Weather plays an important part in the production of good roses. The cool wet spring has helped them and the recent warmth encouraged them to open their flowers. Growth is lush, and for this reason a watchful eye must be kept for the pests which quickly reduce the plants' vigour.

Aphids are probably the worst, and they will first be seen on the tips of the shoots and round the buds. Greenfly are fairly easily killed so long as you attack them early and make sure that the plant is well wetted with the insecticide. As aphids are sucking insects, you must use a contact spray.

For the connoisseur

Gleditsia triacanthos, the honey locust, is a bit of a mouthful but an excellent tree and an ideal specimen for a lawn. It is medium-sized, not a spreader but reasonably upright and would only be out of place in the smallest of gardens.

The form of the honey locust called "sunburst" is less well known than another yellow-foliated tree, *Robinia pseudacacia* "Frisia", but in my opinion is a better tree. Its colour may not be so intense but it has better foliage and, I think, a better habit. It should be better known.

"Sunburst" has golden yellow foliage when young, which turns light green as the season progresses. It also has strong yellow autumn tints to add to its natural beauty. It has pinnate leaves, sometimes doubly pinnate,

which are light and airy in appearance. It never gives the impression of being a big tree because of its feathery look. "Elegantissima" has an even more upright habit and is as slow growing as "Sunburst". Its leaves remain mid green, but the ascending branches make this a tree to reckon with in courtyards or other areas where space is tight. Plant the trees in an open site where they get the benefit of the sun. Do not try them where they will be shaded for most of the day. Good garden soils are needed. Being slow growing, the trees do not like impoverished soils but will do quite well when the soil is in good heart. Plant during the dormant season, late or no pruning is needed but remove branches which are growing out of shape and dead wood. "Sunburst" and "Elegantissima" cost about £16 each.

DRINK

A long cool look at lukewarm red

One of the many wine myths that need debunking is that you should never drink red wine chilled. A cool glass of white or pink wine is fine, say the pundits, but a request to place the *vin rouge* in the ice-bucket is bound to meet with derision and howls of laughter all round, as I found out this week in an Italian restaurant.

It was a warm evening, although not hot, but the restaurant's none-too-thrilling collection of red wine was stored in the kitchen and had obviously been heating up all day. So by the time my indifferent bottle of surprisingly light Barolo arrived at the table it was warm, well on the way to providing a nasty acetic mouthful and reeking of that curious mawkish sweaty smell that overheated red wines suffer from.

After much Italian prevarication *la bella signorina* eventually got her way, all of which set me thinking about cool, if not cold, red wines for July.

I am not suggesting that you should pop your precious bottles of first growth claret in the ice bucket, but there is no doubt that in warm weather any lively red wine with a fair amount of volatile acidity is much improved by this treatment. For most of these red wines the lightly chilled red you want to aim for in the summer is about 50°F going up to 55°F for the best of the warm weather reds - particularly if you are not very keen on the idea to start with and going down to about 45°F if it is a very hot day or for the cheapest reds.

A 10-minute dip in the ice-bucket or a 15-minute stint in the fridge door should be all that is needed to achieve that cool 50°F or so. But beware of chilling any red, or white, wine down to the frozen palate-numbing level unless you are on holiday when it is probably the best way to down the local red hooch.

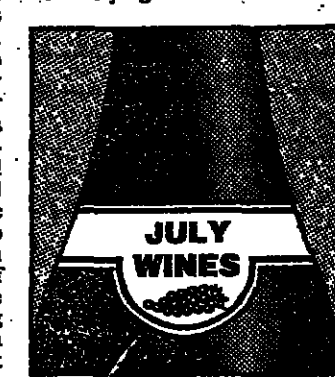
Out of all the classic wine-producing countries the French probably have the fewest qualms about drinking chilled red wine. In the Beaujolais area they have been serving their wine cool for years, and all over France bottles of youthful red fruit wines often boast the words *servez frais* on the label.

As 1982 was a difficult year for Beaujolais it is worth paying the extra now for the superior Beaujolais Villages, such as the deliciously fresh, fruity and moreish Beaujolais Villages '82 from Pierre Ferraud that, lightly chilled, is incredibly refreshing and could easily be drunk at any time during a hot summer's day. (Caves de la Madeleine, 301 Fulham Road, London SW10, £3.89)

The Loire is another good

source of light red summer wines and although those Cabernet Franc wines of Chiron and Bourgueil are beginning to look rather expensive, there are plenty of other modestly priced red Loires about. A real find recently was the smashing Saumur Rouge made from the Cabernet Franc grape by the Cave Co-operative des vigneronnes de Saumur. Saumur, next door to Bourgueil, is actually better known for its sparkling wines but this lovely Saumur Rouge had a bright purple colour plus a rich and very attractive taste reminiscent of blackberries and red currants - yet with sufficient tannin and backbone to cope with a longish session in the ice-bucket. (Peter Dominic £2.69)

Sancerre Rouge is another unusual red Loire wine and this village, right at the other end of the Loire, is also much better known for its stylish white wines, but its red wines made from the Pinot Noir grape are not just novelties and are well worth trying. The best Sancerre



Rouge I have ever come across, and which I wrote about earlier this year, is Jean Vacheron's splendid Sancerre Rouge whose classy raspberry and liquorice-like character comes from being aged in old Burgundy casks. Slightly more expensive but good value, this light summer red is at its refreshing best lightly rather than heavily chilled. (Caves de la Madeleine stock the '79 for £4.95 and the '78 is £5.39 from Les Amis du Vin, 7 Ariel Way, Shepherd's Bush, London W12)

Another star summer red I tasted recently which is the sort of fruity red quaffing wine that I will be drinking all summer long and which is made from Beaujolais' invigorating Gamay grape is Domaine Guenault's '82 Cepage Gamay from Jean-Claude Bonnaire (Oddons, £2.29). This fruity vivid purple wine has a lively peppery *petillance* that is at its best fresh, young and cool.

So next time that arrogant know-all *sommelier* tries to dissuade you from cooling your red wine, prove him wrong.

Jane MacQuitty

Strawberries

Strawberries are so much part of the English summer, it is hard to believe that they first came from America. They are cropping now and will continue to produce berries over a number of weeks. Now is also the time to propagate them. It is essential to propagate from clean, disease-free plants. If your bed or beds are in any way suspect, do not use these plants to increase your stock.

The way to propagate strawberries is by runners - the long strands which arise from the crown of the strawberry and have a small plantlet at the end. Ideally fill 3in pots with a soilless compost and peg these runners into the pots at slits, one per pot. Use wire cut into 2½in lengths and bend into hairpin shape to peg down the runner. Make sure the base of the runner has rooted, they may be removed from the parent plant by cutting the runner at about the pot rim. If you plant in late July or early August, you should have a chance of fruiting next season.

There are two very different Kentish gardens within 12 miles of one another which are well worth a visit now. They are Great Comp (pictured here), near Borough Green and Eythorne Manor, at Hollingbourne. The seven acre garden of Great Comp is the product of 25 years of unaided gardening by the present owners, Mr and Mrs R. Cameron, who, in 1957, set out with very little initial experience to replace the garden and to grow as wide a variety of plants as possible on their slightly acid soil.

The garden has gradually evolved over the years with no precise planning. Mr Cameron feels that it is in a direct evolutionary line from Muntstead Wood, Hidcote and Sissinghurst. There are formal lawns fringed with wide expanses of heather, and an inexhaustible number of grass paths which meander between luxuriant informal plantings of herbaceous perennials, hostas (which have never been better) and *Geranium macrorrhizum*. Mr Cameron admits to being a devotee of Graham Stuart Thomas when it comes to ground cover. Plants to look for are the silvery *Cynara latifolia*, of which there is a perfect specimen, *Cornus Kousa*, *Chimonanthus* and *Dicentra* *Albus*. Totally different in conception is the cottage style garden of one acre at Eythorne Manor.

These plants are crowded together and allowed to seed themselves in all sorts of places; the deliciously scented sweet rocket pops up everywhere. Skiffel use is made of old fashioned roses and many aromatic plants, and the shrub *Philadelphus* lays its heavy scent over the whole garden. Narrow paths twist and turn in complex knots and clever devices, such as split-level planting add to the density.

Great Comp is two miles east of Borough Green. Take the A20 to Wrotham Heath and go down. Seven Mile Lane (B2016). At the first crossroads turn right and the garden is on the left after about half a mile. It is open every day until October 31 from 11am-9pm. Plants are for sale at good prices. Adults £1; children 50p. Eythorne Manor, Hollingbourne, is five miles east of Maidstone, 400 yards north of the end of the A20 on the B2163. Open Saturday and Sunday, 2-6pm also Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during August. Adults 80p. Access is allowed to the 15th century house.



Michael Young

Roses

Weather plays an important part in the production of good roses. The cool wet spring has helped them and the recent warmth encouraged them to open their flowers. Growth is lush, and for this reason a watchful eye must be kept for the pests which quickly reduce the plants' vigour.

For the connoisseur

Gleditsia triacanthos, the honey locust, is a bit of a mouthful but an excellent tree and an ideal specimen for a lawn. It is medium-sized, not a spreader but reasonably upright and would only be out of place in the smallest of gardens.

The form of the honey locust called "sunburst" is less well known than another yellow-foliated tree, *Robinia pseudacacia* "Frisia", but in my opinion is a better tree. Its colour may not be so intense but it has better foliage and, I think, a better habit. It should be better known.

"Sunburst" has golden yellow foliage when young, which turns light green as the season progresses. It also has strong yellow autumn tints to add to its natural beauty. It has pinnate leaves, sometimes doubly pinnate,

which are light and airy in appearance. It never gives the impression of being a big tree because of its feathery look. "Elegantissima" has an even more upright habit and is as slow growing as "Sunburst". Its leaves remain mid green, but the ascending branches make this a tree to reckon with in courtyards or other areas where space is tight. Plant the trees in an open site where they get the benefit of the sun. Do not try them where they will be shaded for most of the day. Good garden soils are needed. Being slow growing, the trees do not like impoverished soils but will do quite well when the soil is in good heart. Plant during the dormant season, late or no pruning is needed but remove branches which are growing out of shape and dead wood. "Sunburst" and "Elegantissima" cost about £16 each.

REVIEW Rock records of the month

Game, set and match to the amazing Miss Jones

RICKIE LEE JONES
Girl At Her Volcano
Warner Bros K923805-1

A sitting target for cheap jeers, thanks to her willingness to make an open emotional commitment in her songs, Rickie Lee Jones is one of the most interesting artists currently at work in popular music. Simply listen to her performance, on this 10-inch LP, of "Walk Away René", how she suspends the venerable old pop tune on the finest of wires, phrasing with acute perception and evoking all the song's memories as well as suffusing it with her own character. It is a brilliant and moving reading, but with similar treatments of Billy Strayhorn's "Lush Life" and Rodgers and Hart's "My Funny Valentine" she proves that her talents are also applicable to more sophisticated material. On the latter, in fact, she may briefly remind some listeners of the reigning queen of improvising singers, Betty Carter - just about the highest praise available, but not to be taken too far.

By contrast with her earlier albums, only one of this collection's songs comes from her pen; among the others are Tom Waits' "Rainbow Sleeves" and, from the Drifters' songbook, "Under the Boardwalk". It is, I believe, a short-term response to the commercial fate of *Pirates*, her outstandingly adventurous 1981 LP, which failed to achieve the recognition so readily given to "Chuck E's in Love", and it reminds me of nothing so much as Laura Nyro's album of r&b cover versions, *Gonna Take a Miracle*. The difference, one hopes, is that whereas Miss Nyro's effort was marked, to all intents and purposes, her own song, *Girl At Her Volcano* is simply a pause for breath. At all costs, hear "Walk Away René".

FLASH & THE PAN
Panorama
Easy Beat EASLP 100

Hurriedly released to capitalize on the chart success of "Waiting for a Train", this is easily the most intriguing album of the month. Flash and the Pan appears to be a cover for the identities of Harry Vanda and George Young, two Australian popsmiths, as the Easybeats cut "Friday on My Mind", a classic piece of Ready Steady Go pop, in 1966. Since then they have worked mostly as composers and producers and have clearly kept their pop instincts.



Making statements (left to right): Sting, Police spokesman; Rickie Lee Jones, volcanic; David Byrne, mouthpiece of Talking Heads; Nico, Danish concert



Panorama seems to have been compiled from material recorded over several years: it includes, for instance, the original version of "Walking in the Rain", that cryptic, menacing piece so effectively covered by Grace Jones a couple of years ago.

We are presented with an anthology of approaches, deploying remembered fragments of pop history: Mason Williams' "Classical Gas", Jim Webb's arrangements for Richard Harris, the Hombres' "Let It All Hang Out", Booker T's "Slim Jenkins' Place", and Timmy Thomas' "Why Can't We Live Together".

The enigmatic, electronically attenuated recitative heard on "Waiting for a Train" is repeated on several tracks, perhaps most tellingly in "California", a kind of bubble-gum version of one of Laurie Anderson's science-fiction nightmares. Not all the songs work so well, but collectively they offer the best argument yet advanced on behalf of Australian pop music.

THE POLICE
Synchronicity
A & M AMLX 63735

Only musicians of great experience and technical skill could produce a single as economical of its resources as "Every Breath You Take": a couple of bars' worth of music, a strong central thought and two minutes with a rhyming dictionary produce a perfect pop construction. On such cleverness the Police's career has been built, and we have to thank for "Roxanne", "Message in a Bottle" and a couple of others that will endure.

They are sprinters, however, and still show few signs of aptitude for longer distances: with *Synchronicity* we are back to the patchiness of *Outlandish d'Amour* and *Regatta de Blanc*, and only their most besotted fans will be satisfied.

Hugh Padgham, their engineer and co-producer, gives them a cooler sound which seems to match Sting's current emotional reserve but cannot altogether disguise a lack of consistent inspiration. The exception, to go with "Every Breath", is the mentholated "Wrapped Around

Your Finger", an archetypal Police statement which will probably do duty as the next single. As the album fades out with "Tea in the Sahara", however, Sting already seems to have his mind on *Dune*.

TALKING HEADS
Speaking in Tongues
Sire K923883-1

Imagine *Remain in Light* without Brian Eno's conceptual trimmings, and you have *Speaking in Tongues*: a bunch of funky grooves into which David Byrne inserts his neurotic, non-sequential monologues. I miss the sweep of *The Catherine Wheel* and the surprise of *My Life in the Bush of Ghosts*, since what is left sounds like a reversion to left principles without the new visions or insights one might have expected.

PAT METHENY GROUP
Travel
ECM 1252/53

Metheny's last two albums marked directional shifts for the young guitarist whose band topped the fusion charts with their early recordings. *As Falls Wichita* saw

him experimenting with long forms, tone poems and noise elements: *Offspring* was a rhythmically lazier, less self-consciously lyrical version of the group's original conception, with the hint of a growing Brazilian influence. *Travel*, a double LP set recorded at various American concerts last winter, summarizes both the early achievements and the later, although the presence of the percussionist Nana Vasconcelos tips the balance towards the more recent approach, with successful results.

The great successes include a sharp version of "Are You Going With Me?" (*Offspring*'s highlight), a courageous and fascinating re-jig of "Wichita's" complicated sonic montage, and the extremely subtle guitar work featured on the blues-ballad which gives the album its title.

A successful soundtrack album - *Blow Up, Saturday Night Fever*, *Diva* - is an exercise in imaginative programming which can work as

well as any other kind of LP on the domestic hi-fi. You need not even see the film to have fun with *Flashdance*, which gets off to a winning start with Irene Cara's delightful theme tune, already a hit in its own right. Here Giorgio Moroder, the guru of the Munich sound of the late 1970s, proves that he can keep up with Evelyn King, Kashif and "Love Come Down", furnishing music to accompany the fitness craze.

Moroder's "Love Theme" is also a beauty, located firmly in the Francis Lai tradition, and the best piece of its kind since the instrumental version of Imaginacion's "Body Talk". Donna Summer's "Romeo" is as sub-standard as most of her recent efforts, despite Moroder's participation: Michael Sembello's "Maniac" is a surprisingly pleasant fusion of AOR and dance music; the rest is filler which slips pleasantly by.

MARSHALL CRENSHAW
Field Day
Warner Bros K923873-1

Crenshaw, the young Detroit rock

classical whose debut album freshened the air a year ago, has already taken stick from critics who think that he made a wrong choice of producer for this, his second effort. The case is overstated, not least because the role of the producer is far from vital in the kind of straightforward four-chord Chevy-to-the-levee rock that Crenshaw purveys. True enough, Steve Lillywhite - more usually to be found controlling the studio on behalf of such British art-rockers as Peter Dinklage and XTC - has altered the sound of Crenshaw's very basic three-piece band by emphasizing the drums, adding jangly echo and generally thickening the textures, but the effect invites a favourable comparison with, from the era of Crenshaw's inspiration, the records of the Bobby Fuller Four, who went for a denser noise than that of Buddy Holly and the Crickets.

The LP does not seem to be quite as full of memorable songs as its predecessor, although "Whenever You're On My Mind" certainly sounds like a lost classic from the early Sixties, but it continues to represent, along with the work of Nick Lowe and Paul Carrack, the best pub-rock around.

NICO
Live in Denmark
VU Records NICO 1

A picture-disc probably only to be found in specialist shops, this is a pleasant surprise since it finds Nico accompanied by a band sound and sympathetic enough to improve on the recorded version of "In a Silent Way", one of her recent singles and the loveliest song she has written. The sensitive guitar obligato is by itself enough to make one reluctant to return to the studio version.

Well recorded and intelligently programmed, the album divides neatly into two parts: the first side contains her own compositions, including "Janitor of Lunacy"; the second has her versions of Dylan's "I'll Keep It With Me", Reed's "Femme Fatale" and "I'm Waiting For My Man" and Bowie's "Heroes".

Sometimes she falls into the trap of singing with too heavy an emphasis, accentuating the Teutonic stereotype; the lighter she treats, the more comfortable she sounds. But this is certainly a worthwhile addition to an output which amounts, after 17 years, to fewer than seven albums.

Richard Williams

PREVIEW Theatre

Critics' choice

ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA
The Pit (828 8795)
July 6 and 7 (last performance) at 7.30pm; matinee July 7 at 2.30pm; sold out
Helen Mirren catches the infinite variety of Cleopatra's character in a definitive performance. Adrian Noble's fast-moving production uses a stark, black background that allows an unimpeded view of the action and emphasizes the disparity between East and West. Michael Gambon is a blustering Antony.

AS YOU LIKE IT
Open Air, Regent's Park (488 2431)
July 5 and 6 at 7.45pm; matinee July 6 at 2.30pm. In repertory Not just a pretty production with Victorian maidens and Thomas Hardy rustics, but a sensitive, intelligent one, that, in its natural woodland setting, makes a magic summer evening. Louise Jameson's lovely Rosalind holds the high comedy and the pathos in delicate balance. John Curry (Orlando) proves a champion wrestler and David Williams is a superbly distinguished Jacques.

BEETHOVEN'S TENTH
Vaudeville (836 9988)
Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinee Wed at 2.45pm; Sat at 4.30pm
Ludwig's posthumous veneration to the home of a pompous London music critic gives Peter Ustinov a starting-point for a literature, if confused, comedy, ranging over topics like the generation gap, Beethoven's mistresses, and his experiences since death. Very variable, but the best bits are gloriously funny and Ustinov himself as the lecherous, outrageously mischievous composer, gives the

sort of performance for which one would sit through a great deal.

CHARLEY'S AUNT
Aldwych (836 6404)
Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.30pm; matinee at 2.30pm. Ends July 30
Griff Jones and his excellent supporting cast transfer joyously up west from their self-out-run at the Lyric, Hammersmith. One of the best aunts ever.

DAISY PULLS IT OFF
Globe (437 1592)
Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinee Wed at 3pm, Sat at 5pm
Denise Deegan's straight-faced recreation of a 1920s girls' school - all prize poems, hockey matches and Empire-building values - sends the world of Angela Brazil straight up and over the top.

EDMUND KEAN
Haymarket Theatre Royal (930 9832)
Mon-Sat at 7.30pm. Ends July 16
Infinitely subtler than his recent TV version, Ben Kingsley's solo performance as the great nineteenth-century tragedian is one of the finest feats of acting in London. Raymond FitzSimons's script carries him from starving obscurity through Drury Lane triumph to a drunken death with style and an astringent sense of irony.

MIR CINDERS
Fortune (836 2238)
Mon-Fri at 8pm; Sat at 5.30pm and 8.45pm; matinee Thurs at 3pm
Packed with enchanting songs and boasting a witty performance by Denis Lawson of acrobatic brilliance. Vivian Ellis's 1929

musical recasts *Cinderella* in the anyone-for-tennis age. Modest staging (originally at the King's Head); but the production's speed and sparkle make it an intoxicating evening.

PEER GYNT
The Pit, Barbican Centre (828 8795)
Today, July 4 and 5 (last performance) at 7.30pm
Simply but thoughtfully staged by Ron Daniels, this pocket-sized *Peer* is surprisingly successful and enjoyable. David Rudkin's acting version transposed into Utopia speech is richly poetic and persuasive, and Derek Jacobi's successive personae as blarneying country wild-boy, opulent entrepreneur and fearful greybeard are convincing even in close-up.

THE REAL THING
Strand (836 2680)
Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 2.30pm
Highly uncharacteristic play by Tom Stoppard, starring Roger Rees as a successful playwright who discovers true love at the cost of his marbles, a fate the play shares with its protagonist, despite much ingenuity, some marvellous writing and a gallant performance by Felicity Kendal.

THE RIVALS
Olivier (828 2252)
July 5 and 6 at 7.15pm; matinee July 6 at 2pm. In repertory
Peter Wood's sparkling revival of Sheridan fulfils the promise of its cast list. Geraldine McEwan as a young but hilariously affected Mrs Malaprop Sir Michael Hordern, gaily and tragically Patrick Ryecart as a witty hero and Tim Curry as the Devonshire squire bringing a fresh farmyard air to the world of minstrel.



Blithe spirits: Janet Suzman and Ian McKellen take to the sitting room floor in *Concordia*, by Sean Mathias, in which they play a brother and sister (an actress and writer) obsessed with Noel Coward and Gertrude Lawrence to the point of living their lives as the famous couple. Anthony Page directs in this, Mathias's first play; it

opens at the Hexagon, Reading, today for a week and transfers to the Theatre Royal, Bath, from July 11 and the Theatre Royal, Bristol, from July 18 before moving into the West End. Performances at the Hexagon (0734 591591) are at 7.30pm tonight and until next Saturday (5pm and 8pm). There is a matinee on Wednesday at 2.30pm.

Out of Town

BIRMINGHAM: Repertory Studio (021 236 4455). Annie Widdler by Arnold Wesker. Mon-Fri at 7.45 pm, Sat at 8 pm. Previews today and July 4; opens July 5, until July 25
Wesker directs Nichola McAuliffe in a one-woman, three-role piece, written specifically for her.

CROYDON: Ashcroft (888 9291). My Fair Lady by Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe. Mon-Sat at 7.30 pm; matinee Wed and Sat at 2.30 pm
Francis Matthews is Professor Higgins in this revival, directed by Peter Clapham, described as a "dazzling new production".

COVENTRY: Belgrade (0203 202025). The Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams. Mon-Thurs at 7.30 pm, Fri and Sat at 8 pm; matinee Wed at 2.30 pm. Until July 9
Free-wheeling comic fantasy, as seen on TV, heard on radio and so on. Rob Bettinson directs this version, adapted by Jonathan Petherbridge.

HARLOW: Playhouse (0279 31945). Lady Chatterley's Lover by D. H. Lawrence. Mon-Sat at 8 pm; matinee Sat at 4.30 pm. July 4-9
Lynette Davies, Norman Eshley and Conrad Asquith lead in this version of the novel, directed by Robert Hamlin.

MANCHESTER: Royal Exchange (061-833 9633). The Government Inspector by Nikolai Gogol. Mon-Wed at 7.30 pm, Thurs-Sat at 8 pm; matinee Wed at 2.30 pm and Sat at 4.30 pm

Derek Griffiths stars in this evergreen satirical comedy, directed by Graham Murray.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE: Theatre Royal (0632 322061). 84 Charing Cross Road by Helene Hanft. Mon-Sat at 7.30 pm; matinee Thurs and Sat at 2 pm. July 4-9
Miriam Karlin and Michael Craig on tour with the award-winning play based on an American woman's correspondence with a London bookshop salesman.

OXFORD: Playhouse (0865 247133). Polly by John Gay. Mon-Fri at 7.45 pm, Sat at 4 and 8 pm. July 4-9
Cambridge Theatre Company production of the rarely-seen sequel to *The Beggar's Opera*, in which Polly Peachum roams the Caribbean in search of Macheath. Directed by Bill Pryde.

WINDSOR: Theatre Royal (95 53888). Happy Family by Giles Cooper. Mon-Fri at 8 pm, Sat at 4.45 and 8 pm. Until July 23
Maria Aitken directs Ian Ogilvy, Angela Thorne and James Laurensen in a bizarre comedy about a brother and sister whose childish fantasy world is invaded by an outsider.

WORTHING: Connaught (0903 55333). The Queen Came by R. F. Delderfield. Mon-Fri at 7.30 pm, Sat at 8 pm; matinee Wed at 2.30 pm and Sat at 3 pm. Until July 16
Originally produced at the Duke of York's in London in 1949, this sentimental piece centres on the employees of a draper's shop on the route of Queen Victoria's Jubilee procession in 1837. Muriel Paylow heads the cast directed by Mark Woolgar.

PREVIEW Galleries

OLIVER MESSEL
Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (589 6371). Until Oct 30, Mon-Thurs, Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.30pm
Though noted primarily for his stylish stage and film designs in Britain during the 1940s and 1950s, Messel was also an artist of unexpected versatility when it came to designing fabrics or interiors. This exhibition is drawn from materials left to Messel's nephew, Lord Snowdon, and placed by him on indefinite loan to the Theatre Museum; it is the first retrospective.

THE ESSENTIAL CUBISM
Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (821 1313). Until July 10, Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 2-5.30pm
The most spectacular collection of cubist masterpieces to have been brought together in this country since the inception of the movement itself. The intention of the show is to educate us in the central role played by cubism in the careers of several major figures of twentieth-century art, and in the evolution of modern art as a whole. And at the same time to knock us sideways with the sheer impact of so many monuments together.

LONDON BY NIGHT
The Photographers' Gallery, 5 & 6 Great Newport Street, London. WC2. Until Sept 3. Tues-Sat 11 am-7 pm
A curious exhibition indeed which, along with Winston Link's complementary Night Trick, takes as its theme the city by night. Brand's re-photographs on the London Underground used as an air-raid shelter during the Second World War is as fresh as ever while the depopulated and blacked-out city above has a strange spectral presence. Of the younger photographers on show Brian Griffin is by far the most consistently innovative and

HENRY MOORE
Marlborough Fine Art, 6 Albemarle Street, London W1 (529 5161). Until Aug 13, Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-12.30pm
The grand old man of British sculpture is 85 on July 30, and still working away indefatigably. This birthday tribute therefore includes a lot of new work, in the form of sculpture large and small as well as drawings.

ROYAL ACADEMY SUMMER EXHIBITION
Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1 (734 3471). Daily, 10am-6pm. Admission £2; students, pensioners, unemployed £1; Mondays 50p for all. Until Aug 28
One of the most popular events in the art world: 1,483 exhibits, so there should be plenty of talking points.

CARPETS IN PICTURES
National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2 (839 3321). Until July 24, Mon-Sat 10-6pm, Sun 2-6pm
A timely supplement to the stunning collection of great oriental carpets at the Hayward, this show gives us chapter and verse, from

PHOTOGRAPHY
Interesting, taking a poetic standpoint and working wonders with light and shade.

A WOODLAND YEAR
Kodak Gallery, 130 High Holborn, London WC1. Mon-Fri 9am-5pm. Until end of July
Flora and fauna seen throughout the season in aid of the RSPB Woodland Bird Survival Campaign. Photographs from the oblique source - Nature Photographs Ltd, Ardes, Bruce Coleman Ltd - show a variety of

the permanent collection of the National Gallery, about the use of oriental carpets in sixteenth-century European art.

RICHARD CARLINE
Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Road, London NW5 (435 2645). Until July 24, Mon-Sat 11am-6pm (Fri 9pm), Sun 2-6pm
Of late years known principally as Stanley Spencer's brother-in-law, Richard Carline was a painter of some distinction in his own right and an important figure in the organization of socially committed art in Britain during the 1930s. The memorial exhibition (he died in 1980) has more than 100 works.

JOHN McEWEEN/BRUCE McLEAN
ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (830 0450). Until Aug 14 (McEween) and Sept 4 (McLean), Tues-Sun noon-6pm
John McEween is a young Canadian sculptor in a figurative tradition: most of his works are of animals, presented in cut-steel silhouettes. Bruce McLean has made a transition from performance art to painting and sculpture of a more traditional kind and this show consists of recent paintings and drawings.

birds, mammals and their habitats which left me feeling that a good idea had not been made the most of.

ROBERT MAPPLETHORPE
The Olympus Gallery, 24 Prince Street, London W1. Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm
Subdued eroticism from master American photographer of flesh. Lisa Lyon models.

Theatre: Irving Wardle and Anthony Masters; Galleries: John Russell Taylor; Photography: Michael Young

Collecting

Embellishing the case for tea

It was Mr Samuel Twining, ninth generation of the famous tea family, who explained to me over lunch recently why the number of tea caddies being made had suddenly multiplied in the 1780s, when they appeared in profusion of new materials, shapes and sizes. This was no mere chance of fashion but the direct result of the efforts of Richard Twining, grandson of the company's founder, who had been able to persuade William Pitt the Younger to reduce the tax on tea so substantially that prices were halved.

This reform was passed in 1784, and within a year nearly three times the amount of tea was being sold to rich and poor up and down the country, and as the commodity spread down the social ladder, so grew the demand for larger and cheaper containers, testing the manufacturing inventiveness of the early industrial era.

The tea caddies of the 1760s, in essence miniature commodes constructed from solid mahogany by first-class cabinet-makers, gradually gave way to chests veneered in lighter woods such as satinwood, hawthorn, walnut and various fruit woods. The best quality pieces continued to be made, but the need for cheap and serviceable caddies on a mass scale had two effects: first, second-grade materials demanded new decorative techniques; and a parlour industry for ladies of leisure was born. In *Sense and Sensibility*, Elinor Dashwood offered to "roll the papers" for her

adversary, Lucy Steele, when she was making a filigree basket: "I should like the work exceedingly, if she would allow me a share in it". They were engaged in one of the most popular and attractive hobbies of the time, rolled paper work - literally the rolling of tiny strips of paper into tight cylinders which were glued on to the chosen surface and then cut and coloured.

The carcass was supplied by a cabinet-maker, with shallow depressions in each panel to take the paper rolls. Often the maker would incorporate her initials and the date in the pattern and an example of this can be found on a charming work-box in the Victoria and Albert Museum. Today, prices for eighteenth-century paper work caddies go from £100 to £350.

Another favourite new material of the day was papier mâché, patented by Henry Clay in 1772, and widely used to make boxes, trays and furniture. Tea

caddies made in this way took the form of chests with divisions inside instead of separate containers. Early examples tend to be painted with flowers or imitation tortoiseshell, rather than the geometric designs of later years. Few caddies have survived into the twentieth century unscathed because the hinges were rarely strong enough to support the weight of the lid when opened.

Imitation tortoiseshell was also a common background of the jappaned metalwares made at the Pontypool and Usk factories. This was a form of jappanning using tin plate applied with numerous coats of varnish, fired at a high temperature between each application. The result was a finish which was very strong and very smooth.

It should still be possible to find tartan caddies from about £20 in junk shops and stalls, but papier mâché, mother-of-pearl, tortoiseshell or jappaned caddies will cost at least £50, and you would be extremely lucky to find a paperwork example for less than £150.

Fenella Rowse

Literature on the subject is fragmented, but Bernard and Therie Hughes' book *Small Antique Furniture* is a good starting point.



A George III rolled paper work tea caddy

Phillips
ORIENTAL SALES SUCCESS

A large "Famille-Rose" fish tank, 50cm diameter Chien Lung period
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Phillips are still accepting items for their Good Oriental Sale this Autumn.

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Eating Out

A quiet graze in the garden of England

The second article in an occasional series that leaves London behind, this week offers a brace of restaurants in urban and bucolic Kent.

The Minster Wine Bar, Kalfreider Street, Maidstone, Kent (0222 55855).

Open: 11.30am-2.30pm and 7.15pm Mon-Sat; 7-10.30pm Sun. While Maidstone boasts a constant swirl of traffic, as perilous to drivers as it is to pedestrians, the Minster offers a haven of calm for survivors.

The quaintly named Knight-Street is now as modern as the television series which shares its name, but the fifteenth-century, oak-beamed building which is the Minster gives some idea of how the town must have looked in earlier less traffic-ridden days.

Inside, much of the original structure of the building has been preserved - huge low beams, mullioned windows, stone floors - and this creates an enjoyable atmosphere for the decent food and wine on offer, as well as the numerous entertainments.

Food is dispensed from a cramped ground-floor counter, and while featuring mainly salads, cold meats and home-made pies, two hot daily specials are usually offered. On my visit these were herring fillets in a spicy sauce with rice (£1.95) and another home-made pie - sausage-meat and egg, with a choice of two salads (£1.65). Preceded by a warming beef and vegetable soup, these constituted a highly acceptable lunch.

Neither the cheeses (plastic-wrapped) nor the desserts (passion cake, cheesecake) were as inviting, but the serviceable, reasonably-priced house red wine (L'Hérault Domaine de l'Aspiran, £3.65) was some compensation. Indeed, a short but well-chosen and helpfully annotated list is marred only by the absence of the wines' vintages.

Beer drinkers are well catered for, with Budweiser and Devenish ales and the strong French bière du garde (£1.95 a bottle). Entertainments include folk evenings, shove-ha'penny and marbles, and the banquet seating in the first-floor gallery is ideal for star-crossed lovers.

Newington Manor Hotel, Calloway Lane, Newington, near Gillingham, Kent (07852 842055). Open: noon-2pm and 7-10pm daily.

More oak-beams and fourteenth-century architecture greet you as you turn into the drive of Newington Manor, a carefully-maintained and thoughtfully-extended country hall just off the old A2 Dover Road. Situated in its own grounds, which just about hide it from the rather functional village dwellings, it seems a pleasant venue for a stop-off en route to the continent, or indeed for a summer's evening dinner in the country.

The menu, as befits the surroundings, is assertively English, with flashes of ambition and invention. It changes every three weeks, so the likes of baked, smoked, in a tomato sauce and garlic sauce (£1.25) or deep-fried cauliflower with a fresh mint and caper relish (£1.50) may no longer be available, which is a pity because they were both excellent.

The short list of main courses included beef (stewed in wine) and smoked salmon (baked in a wholemeal pancake); however, seduced by the trappings, we opted for roast guinea-fowl (£6.95) and haunch of venison (£7.50). The fowl, in a rich sauce flavoured with cranberries, was perfect, and while the cream and juniper berry sauce which accompanied the venison was equally good, the meat itself was rather poor, albeit in huge quantity.

The puddings (£1.25) reflected the English richness of the earlier part of the menu with rhubarb and whisky Bavaiois tartlet with chocolate rum and raisin ice-cream. The home-made blackcurrant ice-cream was delicious but the enticing ginger syllabub had been wrecked by being stiffened with gelatine.

Despite this, the cooking did seem honest and well-intentioned and for those not wishing to tackle the richer foods, a plainer alternative is offered. The cosmopolitan wine-list (including Hungarian, Lebanese and English), pleasant informal service and of course the splendid surroundings merit a visit, perhaps to sample the £6 set lunch.

Stan Hey

Design

Decorator who clothed the West End



A Messel sprite for "Zemir et Azor," 1955

OLIVER MESSEL
Victoria and Albert Museum

Few designers present a more coherent image to the inner eye than Oliver Messel. For anyone, like me, who treasures *Ring Round the Moon* as one of his more memorable childhood experiences of the theatre, and *Queen of Spades* as hardly less of a landmark in his early film-going, the picture is all there right away: frills and lacy trellises and swathes of chiffon on the one hand, cobwebs and cleanly chattered gloom and swathes of brocade on the other. A decorator more than a designer, perhaps - but, oh, what decoration!

One of the principal interests of the *Oliver Messel* memorial show at the Victoria and Albert Museum (until October 30) is to test this kind of instant but possibly limited recall against the extensive reality of Messel's long and fruitful career. Essentially, it proves to be not so far wide of the mark. Between 1923, when he worked on the ballet *Zéphyr et Flore*, and 1976, when he reworked his classic Covent Garden designs for *The Sleeping Beauty* for the Met, he designed costumes and/or sets for an extraordinary variety of plays, operas and ballets (not to mention films) as well as an extraordinary number of the kind to lend themselves to elaborate decoration. But wherever this was possible Messel seized the opportunity with both hands. When it was not, he proved to have more

than a repertoire of fancy rococo and Belle Époque motifs at his command. Above and beyond them was a remarkably precise sense of style and, even more important perhaps for a stage designer, a sure sense of theatre, of which this particular play needed to bring out its true intent.

The exhibition is made up of set models, drawings for costumes and sets and the most minute details of these, production photographs, and a few actual costumes and accessories. Much of this comes from the collection left by Messel to his nephew Lord Snowdon, and put by him on permanent loan to the Theatre Museum. And it is impossible, seeing all this, not to be impressed over and over again by Messel's meticulous attention to detail: if genius is an infinite capacity for taking pains, then genius he certainly was. But the details never overwhelm the whole. The video show of brief extracts from films designed by him, such as *Caesar and Cleopatra*, *The Queen of Spades* and *Suddenly Last Summer*, does its best to provide living witness, but the urge to travel in time back to the heyday of Anouilh and Christopher Fry, when Messel reigned supreme on the West End stage, remains quite irresistible.

John Russell Taylor

Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW1 (081 63711). Until October 30. Mon-Thurs 10am-6.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.30pm.

Sisters juggling with emotions

Until the arrival last year of *The German Sisters*, the director, Margaretha von Trotta was known in Britain chiefly as Volker Schlöndorff's wife and collaborator. Yet von Trotta did not produce *The German Sisters* out of a hat, like a conjurer; the film has clear antecedents, notably *Sisters: The Balance of Happiness*, made two years earlier and now due for its first commercial run in Britain at the ICA Cinema, London.

She co-wrote and co-directed the adaptation of Heinrich Böll's *Die Helden der Katharina Blum* (1975), and co-wrote and starred in *Coig de Grace* (1976). Then came the revelation of *The German Sisters*: a film of distinctive intelligence, political acuity and riveting performances, analysing the fabric of contemporary German life through the tangled lives of two sisters - an imprisoned terrorist - and a crusading journalist; a feminist film that refused to blindfold audiences.

Sisters: The Balance of Happiness concerns sisters again; sisters, too, with similarly contrasting personalities. One, Maria, is an efficient top-grade secretary; the other, Anna, seems stunted by inhibitions, struggling through biology course (at her sister's expense). Strengthening the ties with the later film, Maria is played by the remarkable Jutta

Lampe (the journalist half of the *German Sisters*).

The film has its antecedents in von Trotta's first feature as sole director, *The Second Awakening of Crista Klags* (1977), the story of an altruistic bank robber on the run. From this, von Trotta developed the idea for a comedy delving with greater depth into the office routine endured by most working women. Von Trotta's characters, however, took over the project and overt comedy was elbowed out. In its place, we have the drama of interlocking personal crises, involving three distinct personalities: Maria, the achiever; Anna (Gudrun Gabriel), the destructive; Miriam (Jessica Fröh), the young inefficient secretary.

Does it come across too much like an exercise on a drawing board? The writer-director scribbled in her diary, contemplating the draft script's final pages. It comes across like this, yes, but not too much; there is nothing thin-blooded or perfunctory about the juggling of characters and emotions.

Von Trotta's latest film, *Friends and Husbands*, is currently showing at the Academy Cinema, London.

Geoff Brown

Sisters: The Balance of Happiness opens at the ICA Cinema, London, and the Phoenix, East Finchley, London, on July 7.



Balancing: Gudrun Gabriel and Jessica Fröh as the sisters

PREVIEW Films

Films on TV

"Gimme a visky with chinchin ale on the side - and don't be stingy, baby" may not belong with the pearls of literature but it has gone down in cinema history as the first line of dialogue spoken on the screen by Greta Garbo.

The moment can be relished again this afternoon when Channel 4 shows *Anna Christie* (2.55-4.35 pm), made in 1930 from Eugene O'Neill's play about a former prostitute who returns to her father's river barge and finds happiness with a young sailor.

The arrival of talking pictures made the studios understandably nervous about their prime assets; the stars the public had got used to them without voices and there was no guarantee that when the voices were heard, they would be suitable.

In Garbo's case, there was the added fear that primitive microphones and recording apparatus would not deal kindly with her Swedish accent, though MGM tried to guard against this by choosing a vehicle with a heroine of the same nationality. *Anna Christie* was boldly marketed on the slogan "Garbo talks!" and any reservations MGM might have had were soon dispelled. The Garbo voice, far from sinking her, gave her screen persona a new dimension. It was deep and strong and sensual and the accent was, if anything, a bonus. The film was directed by

Clarence Brown, who had made one of the best sets Garbo films, *The Flesh and the Devil*. The New York settings were created by the famous MGM art director, Cedric Gibbons, and the superb black and white photography was by William Daniels, who was the cameraman on all but five of Garbo's 25 American pictures.

For all this talent, the film failed to escape from its stage origins and even in 1930 was criticized for being static and over talkative. An audience seeing it for the first time now must make allowances.

It survives, in the main, through the quality of the acting: Charles Rickard as the sailor; Charles T. Martin as the father; Mary Dressler, triumphantly stealing scenes as a waterfront drunk; and, above all, Garbo herself.

Peter Waymark

Also recommended: *Amarcord* (1973), Federico Fellini's exuberant mixture of fact and fantasy (BBC2, today, 10.45 pm-12.50 am); *One Eyed Jacks* (1961), a brooding revenge Western directed by its star, Marlon Brando (BBC2, Tuesday, 8.30-10.45 pm); *The Marriage of Maria Braun* (1978), Rainer Werner Fassbinder's metaphor for post-war German recovery and the first of a short series of his films on Channel 4 (Thursday, 9.30-11.45 pm); and *Slouch* (1972), Anthony Shaffer's ingenious stage thriller expertly adapted for the screen by Laurence Olivier and Michael Caine (BBC1, Friday, 10.50 pm-1.10 am, not Wales).

Critics' choice

CONFIDENCE (15)
Gate, Bloomsbury until July 6
G37 1177/8402

Gate Mayfair from July 7
(423 0791)

Isrlav Szabo's austere, compelling tale of emotional conflict between two fugitives posing as man and wife in Nazi-occupied Hungary; filmed with the same sureness, insight and excellent use of modest resources that marked the director's *Mephisto* (made two years later).

JAMES M. CAIN SEASON
NFT (928 9232)

Fans of hard-boiled fiction should flock to the NFT for their current collection of films based on works by the author of *Double Indemnity* and *The Postman Always Rings*

Twice. Two major rarities are featured this evening. Visconti's first film *Ossessione*, based on Foglia, and an earlier French adaptation by Pierre Chénal - *Le Dernier Tourment*, with marvellous Michel Simon and strong atmospheric photography.

KING OF COMEDY (PG)
Gate, Bloomsbury until July 6
(221 0220/752 5750)

Screen on the Hill (435 3365)
Martin Scorsese's film of a fan of chat show host who is obsessed with getting a guest spot on his show and eventually kidnaps his idol in order to realize his ambition. Starring Robert De Niro and Jerry Lewis.

L'ARGENT (PG)
Cemden Plaza (485 2443)

The bleak story of a young man's drift towards crime, based on

holiday weekend in Las Vegas; the heart is unmovable, but the eye is beguiled.

PAULINE AT THE BEACH (15)
Academy 2 Oxford Street
(437 5129)

Eric Rohmer's new film follows the fortunes of a young divorcee (Arielle Dombasle) who encounters an old flame on a seaside holiday and begins a romance with his friend.

RETURN OF THE JEDI (U)
Classic Tottenham Court Road
(536 6148)

Leicester Square Theatre (530 5252)
Odeon Marble Arch (723 2011/2)
The latest, ultra-sophisticated, instalment of George Lucas's *Star Wars* saga, this third adventure describes the rebel commanders' new attempt to combat the Galactic Emperor. Directed by Richard Marquand, with Harrison Ford.

ONE FROM THE HEART (15)
Lumiere (836 0891)

Francis Coppola's studio-bound musical fantasy offers scanty human feelings and abundant technological fireworks. Lovers and drifters shift positions one

SOPHIE'S CHOICE (15)
Plaza Piccadilly Circus
(437 1234)

ABC Fulham Road (370 2636)
Shedlock Holmes Centre (938 2772)
Not for the first time, a famous novel is filmed with scrupulous sensitivity but uncertain personal commitment. William Styron's novel about the life and friends of a Holocaust survivor is distilled by director Alan J. Pakula into a series of striking scenes that never finally cohere. Meryl Streep; Kevin Kline.

TENDER MERCIES (PG)
ABC Fulham Road (370 2636)

ABC Shaftesbury Avenue (836 8861)
Bruce Beresford's film of the relationship between a singer who has lost out to his own fame and a woman widowed in the war. Starring Robert Duval and Tess Harper.

THE PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH (15)
Gate Bloomsbury (837 1177/8402)

Striking cinematic debut by stage and TV director Richard Eyre: a today, 10.45 pm-12.50 am; *One Eyed Jacks* (1961), a brooding revenge Western directed by its star, Marlon Brando (BBC2, Tuesday, 8.30-10.45 pm); *The Marriage of Maria Braun* (1978), Rainer Werner Fassbinder's metaphor for post-war German recovery and the first of a short series of his films on Channel 4 (Thursday, 9.30-11.45 pm); and *Slouch* (1972), Anthony Shaffer's ingenious stage thriller expertly adapted for the screen by Laurence Olivier and Michael Caine (BBC1, Friday, 10.50 pm-1.10 am, not Wales).

The information in this column was correct at the time of going to press. Late changes are often made and it is advisable to check, using the telephone numbers given.

PREVIEW Music

Concerts

PLAEGAN PIANO
Tonight, 7.30pm, Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 5544)
The Plegan Piano Quartet provides a welcome opportunity to hear Copland's fine Quartet, William Alwyn's Rhapsody, and Quartets Op 16 and 45 by respectively Beethoven and Faure.

SPANISH EVENING
Tonight, 7.15pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 5544)
Falla's *El Amor Brujo* and two choruses form his *Atlántida* frame the London premieres of Rodrigo's *Wedding Cantata* and Ode to Salamanca. Raymond Calvert conducts the Ronevalence Choir and Bournemouth Sinfonietta.

MORE BRAHMS
Tomorrow, 4.30pm, Adeline Genie Theatre, Lingfield Road, East Grinstead, West Sussex (034 287 532)
They are still celebrating the 150th anniversary of Brahms's birth in Lingfield Road, this time with Elizabeth Hunt, Peter and Raphael Wallfisch performing his Piano Trio Op 87 and Cello Sonata Op 99. In between comes Schubert's inescapable *Arpeggione* Sonata.

WINTER JOURNEY
Tomorrow, 7pm, Purcell Room
Lorraine McKean, with John

Blakely at the piano, gives the world premiere of David Matthews's *Winter Journey*, plays violin sonatas by Debussy, Beethoven (Op 50 No 3), Richard Strauss, and Sarasate's *Carmen Fantasy*.

AMERICAN SYMPHONY
July 4, 7.45pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall
The South Bank's medium-sized hall celebrates American Independence Day with Ivor's symphony No 3 "Camp Meeting" and Copland's Clarinet Concerto (soloist Michael Collins). Under Jaek Kasparyk the Wren Orchestra also plays Wagner's *Siegfried Idyll* and Brahms's *Serenade No 1*.

STARS, STRIPES, ETC
July 4, 8pm, Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 5544)
In between Sousa's *The Stars and Stripes Forever* and Bernstein's *Carole Overture*, the Young Musicians' Symphony Orchestra plays Gershwin's *American in Paris*, the Gershwin-Bennett *Porgy and Bess* Symphonic Picture and Bernstein's *West Side Story* Dances. James Blair conducts.

JOHN CALE
Tues, The Venue, 160 Victoria Street, London SW1 (828 9441)
This time Cale brings his American band. Expect fireworks.

WOMAD
From Wed, ICA Theatre, Nash House, The Mall, London SW1 (530 0493)
The successor to last year's grand event at Shepton Mallet runs to 12 nights and is a monument to current eclecticism. Wednesday: Gesper Lawal's African drum band and a unit from Rip Rig & Panic (Flash, Mark Springer and Sean Oliver). Thursday: Vini Reilly's Durutti Column and the Iraqi singer Sadi Al Hadithi. Friday: Marine Sidi, the Scots singer Dick Gaughan and Ritwik Sanyal, an Indian singer.

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Dance

NUREYEV SEASON
Coliseum (836 5161) until July 23, weekdays 7.30 pm, matinee Sat 2 pm
Rudolf Nureyev dances every performance, with several different ballerinas including guest stars Yoko Morishita from Tokyo and Monique Loubières from Paris. This week and next the Boston Ballet is appearing in his *Don Quixote* (today only) and *Swan Lake* (from Monday).

HOUSTON BALLET
Sadler's Wells (278 8916) today 2.30 and 7.30 pm
Manchester Palace (061 236 9922) July 4-9 at 7.30 pm, matinee Sat 2.30 pm
Their popular *Peer Gynt* completes the London season today and is given Monday-Thursday in Manchester. Next Friday, a mixed bill including Jiri Kylian's comic *Symphony in D* and Ben Stevenson's showpiece *Britten Pas de Deux*.

RENNES DANCE THEATRE
Bloomsbury (387 9629) until July 9, weekdays 7.30 pm, matinee Sat 3 pm
This lively and amusing company from Brittany gives a programme by Romanian choreographer Gigi Casuleanu proving that modern works can be fun.

ROYAL BALLET SCHOOL
Covent Garden (240 1066) today 1.30 pm
Sadler's Wells (278 8916) July 4-9 at 7.30 pm, matinee Sat 50 pm
Today's Covent Garden matinee includes the premiere of Michael Corder's *The White Goddess*, to music by Martinu, with *Paquita* and *Symphony in D* to show the young dancers' paces. These with two for the junior pupils, Jennifer Jackson's *Singly Dances* and Richard Glasstone's new *Songs and Stories*, make up next week's repertory at the Wells.

SECOND STRIDE
The Place (387 0031) today 8 pm
A last chance to see the new works by Richard Alston and Ian Spink.

Opera

GOVENT GARDEN
Peter Maxwell Davies's compelling examination of private and public betrayal in the figure of John Taverer has returned after 10 years to the Royal Opera House. It should not be missed as it continues tonight, Wednesday and next Saturday. Edward Downes conducts with Ragnar Ulfung in the title role. One more *Fidelio* (Jon Vickers and Linda Esther Gray) on Monday, and the *Macbeth* revival with Sherrill Milnes and Grace Burnby on Tuesday and Friday. (240 1066)

GLYNDEBOURNE
John Cox's new production of Rossini's *Constanza* enters the Sussex repertoire this week on Wednesday and Friday, with Donato Ranzani making his Glyndebourne debut conducting a cast which includes Kathleen Kuhlmann in the title role, Roderick Kennedy as Alidoro and Claudio Desderi as Don Magnifico. Meanwhile *Idomeneo* (tonight, July 5 and 7) and *Intermzzo* (July 3 and 8) continue their runs. Some return tickets may be available. (0273 812411)

Films: David Robinson and Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Rock & Jazz: Richard Williams; Dance: John Percival

The Times/Glyndebourne/Cointreau Competition

Cointreau made a production of Prokofiev's *The Love for Three Oranges* financially possible last summer; this was Cointreau's first venture in Britain into arts sponsorship. *Oranges* returns to the Glyndebourne repertoire this month. Cointreau, in cooperation with *The Times*, are offering a number of prizes for a verse or verses, maximum eight lines, which might or might not be set to music, linking Cointreau with Glyndebourne.

The best two entries will be awarded two seats for the performance of *The Love for Three Oranges* on August 8, dinner during the interval, overnight accommodation at Shelley's hotel in Lewes and transport, if needed, from London to Glyndebourne. Each of the six runners-up will receive a mug of Cointreau. The closing date for entries is first post, July 11. The judges will be George Christie, chairman of Glyndebourne Productions, Roy Trustram-Eve, managing director of Cointreau's UK agents and John Higgins, executive editor of *The Times*. The winners will be announced in the Saturday section on July 30.

Please send entries to: Glyndebourne competition, *The Times*, 12 Coley Street, London WC9 9YT.



Royal Opera House

The Royal Ballet
14-30 July

Isadora
14, 16, 19, 22 July

The Dream/
Valli Capricci/
Voices of Spring/
Dances of Albion
20, 23, 25 July

Four Schumann Pieces/
The Two Pigeons
26, 27, 30 July

The Dream/Afternoon of
a Façade/Chaconne/
Dances of Albion
28, 29 July

eves 7.30
mats 16, 23, 28
30 July

Reservations
01-240 1266
10am-8pm
Access/
Visa

Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ
Telephone 01-437 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 709.8 down 10.9
FT 100 82.13 up 0.06
Bargains 23.303
Datastream USM Leaders:
97.07 down 0.82
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
index 8935.66 up 64.71
Hongkong Hang Seng index
983.72 up 19.37
New York Dow Jones Average
(latest) 1221.25 down 0.71

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5315 down 25pts
Index 84.2 down 0.1
DM 3.89 up 0.0250
Fr 11.89 up 0.0850
Yen 366 up 1.75
Dollar
Index 124.8 unchanged
2.587 up 17pts
Gold
\$416.50 up \$0.50
NEW YORK LATEST
Gold \$416
Sterling \$1.5315

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Base rates 9½
3 month interbank 9½-8½
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9½-9½
3 month DM 5½-5½
3 month Fr 14½-14½
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period May 4 to June
7, 1983 inclusive: 10.334 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

TV South 50p + 14p
Parkfield Fndry 17p + 3p
Good Relations 17p + 25p
Selincourt 12.5p + 1.5p
Cornell Hldgs. 16p + 20p
Raybeck 35p + 4p
Willairs 5p + 1p
Hickling P. 85p + 1p
Black M. 85p + 1p
Sangers 38p + 4p
Renshaw 150p + 15p
Reliant Motor 19p + 2p

£5m forecast for S R Gent

Newcomer S. R. Gent looks set to make a flying start when dealings start in its shares next Thursday. The Yorkshire-based textile group sells almost exclusively to Marks & Spencer and its tender offer of 9,000,000 shares was heavily oversubscribed. Even the 900,000 preference shares reserved for the staff were fully taken up.

The striking price has been set at 190p. The company forecasts pre-tax profit for the current year of more than £5m against £4.2m last year.

● **VIDEO STAKE:** Mr John Bentley has increased his stake in Interview Video, the company whose board he left this year, to 6.2 per cent or 1,250,000 shares. He took a £50,000 handshake when he left it.

● **SHARES RISE:** Japanese share prices rose to record highs yesterday after news that the inflation rate in Tokyo was at its lowest for 16 years. Prices in Tokyo rose just 1.9 per cent since mid-June last year, according to an official survey.

● **LOTUS TALKS:** Mr M. Kimberley, president of Lotus sports car group, yesterday met Toyota executives in Tokyo amid reports of a plan by Toyota to acquire a stake in Lotus.

Lotus is experiencing financial difficulties, but Toyota officials declined to reveal what Mr Kimberley and Toyota executives, including Mr Shochiro Toyota, the Toyota president, discussed.

Reports last month suggested that Toyota, Japan's biggest car manufacturer, was planning to buy Lotus for £10m.

● **BREWER'S PROFIT:** The Bury St Edmunds brewer Greene King and Sons reported a rise in pretax profits from £7.2m to £8m in the year to May.

● **GOING PUBLIC:** Henderson Administration, the investment management group, is to go public by tender. Investors will be asked for a minimum price of 32.5p for 2.6m shares or 25 per cent of the group. Applications will open next Thursday.

● **CARTEL FINES:** The former managing directors and 22 senior officials of eight French oil companies were heavily fined yesterday for making cartel agreements to regulate prices of petroleum products. Fines ranged from Fr 3,000 (£260) to Fr 500,000.

● **MERGER BAN:** The West German Supreme Court has forbidden the merger of Philip Morris, of New York, and Rothmans Tobacco Holdings, of London, as far as their West German operations are concerned because of its effect on competition.

WALL STREET

Holiday trading is slow

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Stocks were continuing a narrowly mixed pattern yesterday and the pace of trading was slow.

The Dow Jones Industrial average was down about a half-point and the transportation average was down 2 points. Advances were about 7-to-6 ahead of declines.

Mr Ernest Rudnet, managing director for block trading at L. F. Rothschild Unterberg Towbin said that the market was being controlled basically by the traders with volume beginning to dry up and no apparent direction.

"The decline of the point in the index is a disappointment with a long weekend and the money supply number coming up. But we are still seeing a lot of activity in selected stocks," he said.

Mr Rudnet said he expected this would be the way for three or four weeks. "The portfolio managers are reexamining their holdings as they look to the future course of the market."

The market will be closed on Monday for the Fourth of July holiday.

General Motors was 72 5/8, off 1-8; Ford 56 1/2, unchanged; General Electric 34, off 7/8; International Business Machines 120 1/2, up 1-4; American Cyanamid 46 7/8, off 1-2; Exxon 34, off 1-8; and Texas Instruments 118 3/4, off 3-8.

Storer Communications was up 1 7/8, to 32 1/2; G. D. Searle up 2 3/4, to 47 1/8; Butler International up 3, to 22; Maytag up 1 1/4, to 51 1/2; Mobil off 1/2, to 31; Standard Oil of California off 3-8, to 38 7/8; Southern Pacific off 3-8, to 5-8; and Delta Airlines up 1-8, to 42 5/8.

US tries to beat Laker ban

From Bailey Morris Washington

An attempt by the US Government to expand the scope of its criminal investigation into the Laker case is being resisted strongly by the British Government. It has resulted in a series of unusually intense private diplomatic talks in Washington, sources said.

The US Justice Department is seeking to gain access to documents located in Britain as part of its investigation. The British Government, which eight days ago told British Airways a British Columbian not to comply with a subpoena for the documents, is also resisting the American efforts in private talks.

Previously, British officials in Washington would confirm only that the US Administration had requested and gained US-based documents from the two British airlines.

Now, it has learned, the Administration is trying to expand the scope of the investigation into British territory and this is one of the main sticking points in a series of private negotiations between the two Governments which began last Monday.

An official close to the talks said: "The two sides are still hammering away at each other as they have been every day since last Monday."

At the heart of the increasingly difficult dispute is a strong difference in philosophy over what constitutes proper business conduct and the application of American anti-trust laws.

The British Government opposes strongly to the American attempt to apply its anti-trust laws to an area of commerce regulated by a bilateral airline accord, known as the Bermuda II agreement, between the two countries.

Further, some of the offences alleged in the civil anti-trust complaint which Laker Airways has lodged against eight European airlines, including BAA and BCL, are not considered illegal under British law.

Carmakers selling in Britain are planning new moves to fight EEC Commission proposals which could substantially reduce new car prices in the United Kingdom.

A maximum price differential of 12 per cent between prices in Britain and other EEC countries is being sought by the commission. Although price differentials between Britain and Belgium have narrowed on specific car models, the prices in Britain can still be anything from 22 per cent to 59 per cent higher, according to one recent European consumer survey.

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders the trade association to which importing carmakers and Britain's own manufacturers belong, has reacted angrily both to the commission's proposals and the latest survey figures.

The survey, by BEUC, the European umbrella organization for consumer groups, is

Concern grows over high valuations and volatile prices

Bank sees threat to investors with USM's 'overpriced' share risks

By Michael Clark

The Bank of England has issued a warning about the possible dangers of investment in the Unlisted Securities Market.

In a detailed review of the progress of the market since its launch in 1980, published in the present issue of the Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin, it draws attention to the high valuations placed on companies, and the sometimes excessive volatility of share prices.

It concludes that these features may be an inevitable consequence of creating a market for small, and relatively young companies. But the Stock

Exchange should be cautious about relaxing the entry requirements in an effort to attract more to the market.

The Banks warning is the latest, but the most influential, of a series of cautions from City institutions about the dangers of excessive speculation in the market.

Various members of the Stock Exchange Council have said that some share prices are too high, and Sir Nicholas Goodison, the chairman, last month wrote to the senior partners of Stockbroking firms seeking support in efforts to curb the market's excesses.

The Bank is clearly worried that some prices are still too high. Only 13 per cent of

companies on the USM have been capitalized at less than the value of the assets in the balance sheet it says, but more than half have been valued at more than double their asset value. And it draws a parallel with conditions on the main Stock Exchange in 1973 - on the eve of the fringe bank crash - when many shares were similarly overvalued.

The USM has had considerable success since its launch, and in the first 2½ years, 171 companies were admitted, the Bank says. Of these eight subsequently joined the main Stock Exchange and seven were suspended or taken over. The remaining 156 at the end of April had a combined market

value of £1.3m, and on average shares to the value of £5m changed hands daily.

The report warns investors that they may find it difficult to value the share they are buying as many of the companies are immature and have untried products.

It points out that most stockbroker research is still concentrated on companies with a full stock market listing, and the specialized investment publications which concentrate on the market have widened investor interest without necessarily improving the quality of information.

"In these circumstances it is not easy to ensure that a false market is avoided," it says.

The Bank also indirectly criticizes the pricing of some of the issues, and the way in which the bulk of the shares may be placed with favoured clients of the issuing house. It implies that some of the prices do not take a cautious enough view of the prospects of the business, while the relatively small number of shares available to the public after a placing results in prices being bid up too far.

While it recognizes that these problems are to a degree unavoidable, given the nature of the USA, the Bank clearly feels that some firms are bringing companies to the market in a way which adds to the problems.

City Comment

Lawson says a little

Mr Nigel Lawson's first important speech as Chancellor to the House of Commons on Wednesday has left the markets little the wiser as to the policies he is likely to pursue or how his approach will differ from that of Sir Geoffrey Howe his predecessor.

The words were tough, to be sure, but closer scrutiny admits more than interpretation.

Take monetary policy, over which the City has been muttering for weeks that Mr Lawson will need to take action to bring money supply back within target. Instead, the Chancellor, while stressing financial discipline, talked about operating money policy flexibly and sensibly in the light of changing circumstances. This suggests the Treasury will continue to watch the exchange rate in particular and the real economy in general rather than take a mechanistic view of the monetary aggregates. Such eclecticism may be wise but it hugely complicates the markets' guessing game on interest rates.

On fiscal policy, where Mr Lawson is said to be extremely hawkish, he was careful to avoid specifics. "I stand ready to take action on Government borrowing if our objectives are endangered", he said, which falls a long way short of promising to keep borrowing to the published target.

As for public spending over the longer term, he went no further than to reiterate that the Government would stick to existing plans to keep the real level of public spending constant in the years to come. This alone would mean "no scope for relaxation... this year, next year or in any year". But it does not herald the advent of a new and tougher regime.

Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose?

Marinex plans to raise £7.15m

By Michael Prest

Shareholders in Marinex, the oil exploration company with acreage in Hampshire, are being offered 55p a share because Canada Northwest Energy propose to increase its stake to more than 30 per cent. Marinex shares closed last night at 76p.

The offer is part of a complex refinancing of Marinex, the purpose of which is to ensure that sufficient funds are available to develop the company's interests in southern England, where it has 14 per cent of Humble Grove, and offshore from Spain.

Canada Northwest will guarantee bank facilities of up to £250,000, while will give it 31.9 per cent of Marinex. Under Takeover Panel rules, a company is generally required to make a general bid if its shareholding goes over 30 per cent.

In return for this guarantee, Canada Northwest will receive 800,000 shares in Marinex for a total of £440,000. It also has the right to buy another 200,000 shares for £110,000 altogether.

But the main injection of fresh funds into Marinex will come from a rights issue of 12m shares at 50p each, underwritten by Canada Northwest.

These arrangements could bring £7.15m into Marinex's coffers. The company says the cash raised will be used to pay off bank borrowings. But shareholders will also be asked to approve that a Jersey



Dan Williams: renouncing rights

company, Mountain Ltd, be granted warrants to buy one million shares at 35p each up to the end of June 1988 in return for guaranteeing Marinex's overdraft in the three months to June 30, 1983.

Mr Dan Williams, deputy chairman and managing director of Marinex, has renounced two-thirds of his rights to the issue of shares while fellow directors, Mr John Kinard and Mr Andrew Fish have renounced all their rights. The three will not, however, accept the 55p a share general offer.

Shares in Marinex were floated two years ago by Carr Seab, the stockbrokers, at 160p. Earlier last year, they fell to about 40p.

Ronson in talks with Hanson

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron Corporation has accepted Hanson Trust's offer for UDS and is negotiating with Hanson to buy parts of the UDS group, which could be worth more than £150m.

Mr Ronson confirmed yesterday that he had accepted the Hanson offer in respect of his holding or more than 10 per cent of the UDS shares. He also said he had been talking with Hanson for six or eight weeks on buying parts of the UDS group. These were the John Collier and Richard Shops chains, the export business and some of the department stores.

Mr Ronson said they could be worth well over £150m and he expected Hanson to realize £150m to £200m from selling parts of UDS.

Mr Ronson described the negotiations with Hanson as cordial and said he had established a good rapport with the group.

However, he denied that he had negotiated an option to buy parts of the stores group in return for accepting the Hanson offer for UDS.

Mr Ronson's Heron Corporation was part of a consortium called Basishaw which tried unsuccessfully to take over UDS and ended up with 14.1 per cent of the shares.

Farmers seek £10m to retain FMC

By John Young, Agricultural Correspondent

The launching of a company to acquire the share capital of FMC formerly the Fatstock Marketing Corporation, was announced yesterday by the farmers' union of England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Sir Richard Butler, the National Farmers' Union president, said the target was to raise £10m by August 8. Copies of the prospectus for the Farmers' Meat Company, as the new venture will be called, would be available on the union's stand at next week's Royal Show and at other agricultural events.

Sir Richard hopes for an enthusiastic response not just from specialist beef, lamb and pig producers but from dairy

farmers, whose herds supplied 70 per cent of the beef sold in Britain, and from cereal growers whose main customer was the livestock industry.

The new company had entered into an agreement with the NFU development trust, whereby, provided that a minimum of £7m was raised within the target period, it would acquire the 75 per cent shareholding in FMC held by the trust.

The total consideration payable under the offer would be £4,900,000, and the unions' intention was to invest £4,500,000 on working capital for modernization and development.

Iris loss hits Ansbacher

By Our Financial Staff

Henry Ansbacher Holdings, the merchant banking and financial group, has made a £1.29m provision against its investment in the ill-fated Washington intelligence agency, International Reporting Information Systems (Iris).

Iris, which numbered Mr Edward Heath, the former Tory prime minister, on its advisory board, ran into trouble earlier this year and Ansbacher said in February that it would have to make provision for losses. Its

total investment in Iris was £1.29m.

The provision has been taken as an extraordinary item in the group's results which were announced yesterday. These showed an attributable profit after tax and minorities of £732,000 in the year to March 31, compared with £656,000 the previous year.

The merchant bank improved profits after transfer to inner reserves from £250,000 to £829,000.

£22m Fleet payoff to Trafalgar

By Our Financial Staff

Fleet Holdings, which owns Express Newspapers and Morgan Grampian magazines, is severing its last tie with Trafalgar House. Fleet is paying £22m to cancel the £15m of 8 per cent convertible loan stock owned by Trafalgar.

The newspaper group yesterday announced an £18m rights issue to help pay off the unsecured loan stock. Terms are two new shares at 78p for every five held.

Fleet's shares weakened from 96½p to 89p but later recovered to 93p as the market digested the profit forecast of at least £9.1m pretax in the year to June 30 - about £2m better than expected. A 1.5p final dividend is also promised, making 2.25p for the year compared with 1p in the company's first nine months trading.

However, speculation that Reuters may get a stock market listing has helped to push up the value of Fleet's shares, which were 22p at the time of the demerger and at one point touched 16p.

Fleet said it could not put a value on its Reuters stake - it owns about 10 per cent directly and roughly 2 per cent more through the Press Association - but outside analysts believe the whole of Reuters could be worth up to £1bn on a conventional flotation.

Italians reject EEC directive

From John Earle Rome

A serious row has blown up between Italy and the European Commission over the latest cuts in steel production imposed on member countries.

Signor Amintore Fanfani's caretaker Government has rejected a mandatory directive from Brussels to reduce output by 3.5 million tonnes.

The new cuts hit the Italians hardest because, in the previous three years, the Italian industry has made very little effort to cut back its capacity.

The Italian action was being viewed with alarm yesterday in British steel industry circles and in Whitehall. The Italian objections were being described as potentially the most serious rift in the finely balanced crisis-hit community steel industries.

A communication issued by the Italian Prime Minister's office after a meeting of ministers declared the directive to be "inacceptable and inapplicable".

These are strong words from a government normally a firm supporter of European policies and less used than Paris or London to adopting an attitude of frontal opposition.

Behind its attitude lie widespread fears of further job losses, a demonstration on Thursday by steelworkers paralysed the centre of Genoa.

Growing opposition to EEC proposals

Car price fight intensifies

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Carmakers selling in Britain are planning new moves to fight EEC Commission proposals which could substantially reduce new car prices in the United Kingdom.

A maximum price differential of 12 per cent between prices in Britain and other EEC countries is being sought by the commission. Although price differentials between Britain and Belgium have narrowed on specific car models, the prices in Britain can still be anything from 22 per cent to 59 per cent higher, according to one recent European consumer survey.

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders the trade association to which importing carmakers and Britain's own manufacturers belong, has reacted angrily both to the commission's proposals and the latest survey figures.

The survey, by BEUC, the European umbrella organization for consumer groups, is

misleading by emphasizing the difference between United Kingdom and Belgian prices, according to the SMMT. The differential with French prices has declined from 26 per cent to 15 per cent, with West Germany down to 10 per cent from 23 per cent and with Holland showing a decline from 26 per cent to 14 per cent, the SMMT claims.

The SMMT argues that currency changes largely account for price differentials. Recent strengthening of sterling could have widened the price gap again somewhat. In France, West Germany and Holland, the SMMT admits.

The SMMT is seeking talks with the Department of Trade and Industry to get support for its campaign against the commission proposals. The SMMT is putting together a case for concerted action against the commission proposals which is to be mounted by CLCA, the

European umbrella committee for all the EEC manufacturers and traders' association.

The SMMT is questioning whether the commission's attempts to impose a 12 per cent differential is legal because in its view it amounts to price control.

Under EEC competition policy rules selective or exclusive distribution arrangements between manufacturers and dealers are banned but the commission proposes to exempt car dealerships. This is because the present selective dealership system guarantees specialized servicing for vehicles.

One condition of getting the exemption will be that dealers should be allowed to use spare parts from other manufacturers provided they match quality for quality with those from the original manufacturer. This is likely to bring opposition from key carmakers.

Schroders

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Full details of the Fund are contained in the current Prospectus which can be obtained by mailing the attached coupon to the Manager. Shares may only be acquired on the terms contained in the Prospectus.

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This advertisement is issued by J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited, an exempted dealer in securities.

Crime

A thief is about – and there is no hot line to stop cards being used

Last Friday I became yet another crime statistic my handbag containing wallet, cheque books, cheque guarantee card, Eurocheque card, service till card, credit cards and store account cards was stolen as I sat chatting with friends in a Fleet Street wine bar.

It must have been a professional job since the bag was hanging on the arm of the chair (from which I did not move and no one saw it go).

Within an hour the Barclaycard had been used to cash machine to withdraw £100. I am ashamed to admit I committed the cardinal sin of keeping the cash dispenser number in my wallet alongside the credit card.

The police were called and details were taken. But on returning home and telephoning Barclaycard and Access, I was astonished to discover that there was only recorded telephone answering service in operation.

The credit card companies constantly bemoan the fact that losses from fraud are rising sharply – yet they apparently do

not take elementary precautions. Barclaycard was "amazed" that we only have a telephone answering service.

And why are the police not given 24-hour emergency numbers so that credit cards can be stopped immediately? "They would have this", according to Access, although this was certainly not my experience.

In desperation, I rang the head offices of Barclaycard and National Westminster Bank to report the theft of the credit and cheque cards, and only on these numbers were there real people.

Access still had an answerphone service in operation on the Saturday morning.

Last year, Barclaycard (Visa) lost £7.1m on stolen credit cards, most of which are intercepted when they are sent to cardholders through the post, or are stolen from people's handbags or briefcases.

Access says it lost about £4.8m and if you add the cheque frauds, the total for the big four banks was more than £35m last year. Various

methods of combating losses on fraud are being investigated but this does not seem to include having a 24-hour "hot-line" on which thefts can be reported and cards immediately stopped.

The card companies seem to have rejected the idea of a photograph on the card, although with students and pensioners happy to comply with this requirement on cheap travel cards it is difficult to understand the card companies' reluctance.

Barclaycard said: "We have introduced a pilot scheme in two areas where we are asking people to collect their new cards from the nearest Barclays Bank branch."

One development which Barclaycard and American Express are experimenting with, is the "authorization telephone" – a device for checking instantly with the central computer whether a card has been stolen.

The machines, which are an adapted telephone, cost about £500 and Amex has them installed in Harrods on a trial basis. Barclaycard is trying

them out in 300 shops, and expects to rent them eventually.

These machines make checking on stolen cards more efficient because all stolen or lost cards are notified to the computer, but under the present system retailers are given a list of only 100 cards most likely to be used in their area.

Clearly it is foolish to do what I did and keep credit cards and cheque guarantee cards in the same place as cheque books. And it is handing things on a plate to the criminal if you also include the service till or cashcard number.

Always sign a card as soon as you receive it and if your card is delayed on renewal, telephone and check that it has been sent. Someone may have intercepted it and an unsigned card is just what the criminal is looking for.

If your cards or chequebook are stolen, notify the police and the relevant card company and bank immediately. You are liable for any losses until you have informed the companies concerned.

Lorna Bourke



Applications are pouring in for a stake in the Thoroughbred Investment Company, a novel way into the bloodstock market. Adviser to this Isle of Man fund is the British Bloodstock Agency, the world's largest specialist bloodstock agency. Its Chairman is Lord Oaksey, above (right) with managing director Mr Stuart Eastwood who said: "Virtually everywhere we have been in the City there has been huge interest."

Demand for prospectuses has been so heavy that Res Bros, which is handling the initial placing, has ordered a reprint. Minimum investment is £1,000 and the closing date for applications is July 27.

Customers' rights

How 'reasonable' must care be?

What rights does a customer have whose gold bracelet, taken to a jeweller for repair, is stolen from the shop's premises? Or whose suit is lost by the dry cleaners? Can he or she demand compensation for the lost or stolen item, or does the customer have to accept the risk inherent in leaving goods on outside premises?

Under common law, the trader who performs a service – just like any supplier of goods to the market – has a general duty of reasonable care to the public. And he can be sued by anyone who has suffered, whether or not he himself received the service. If a jeweller, therefore, leaves your bracelet on the top of his counter, that would be held by a court to be a breach of his duty to take reasonable care.

But, unfortunately, not every case is that clear cut. Exactly what does, and what does not, constitute exercising "reasonable care" would in many instances depend on the particular circumstances and would be a matter, finally, for the court's discretion.

Second, there is the problem of "exclusion" notices, by which traders may try to evade their liabilities. A notice in a shop disclaiming responsibility for goods left cannot restrict a trader's liability for loss or damage resulting from his negligence, unless he can prove the relevant clause is reasonable. The burden of proof is on him.

Again, "reasonableness" varies according to circumstance. The Consumers' Association gives the example of a coat which was left in a restaurant and stolen. The restaurant disclaimed responsibility, pointing to a notice

Frances Gibb

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27

Mortgages

Why bank home loans are cheaper

The banks have been announcing their new mortgage rates this week after the building societies' decision to raise home loan rates from 10 per cent to 11.25 per cent. And very confusing it is, too.

The banks use a different interest rate calculation from the building societies so it is useless to try to compare "best buys" on the basis of the quoted interest rate. The best method of comparison is to look at the monthly repayment but this has been complicated, too, by the introduction of Miras (mortgage interest relief at source).

Most building societies (but not all, the Halifax being the most notable exception) have chosen to implement Miras using the "constant net repayment" system. The banks' version of Miras, which gives a better deal for the customer, is the "variable net repayment" system. This gives lower net

repayments in the early years of a loan, rising as the interest element in each repayment declines. Halifax offers this, too.

The building societies' new mortgage rate of 11.25 per cent works out at an effective rate of just under 12 per cent which compares badly with the banks' quoted rates of 11 per cent (an effective rate of around 11.5 per cent).

This is good news for the bank's existing homebuyers. But since the banks have effectively stopped lending except to existing homebuyers or valued customers, the possibility of shopping around for the cheapest loan is somewhat academic.

Both Barclays and NatWest charge an extra 1 per cent on endowment loans – though Barclays says only 8 per cent of its home-loan business is insurance-linked. Midland and

Lloyds charge an extra 0.5 per cent for endowment loans.

And it pays to look at the total package. Some lenders (both banks and building societies) ask for an insurance indemnity if the loan goes over a certain percentage of the purchase price. This usually takes the form of a one-off premium – which the lender graciously condescends to include in the total loan package. But it is an added expense. If the premium is for example, £500 added to your loan, the repayments work out at an extra £3.80 a month after tax relief on a 25-year loan.

There can be other nasties, too. A reader complains that the

Trustee Savings Bank asked for a £100 fee for setting up an endowment-linked loan – because he has his own insurance broker to arrange the endowment policy.

TSB confirms that this is standard procedure. "But any agency commission we receive would be offset against the £100 fee has to be paid."

This seems a bit steep when you consider that Halifax and Abbey National charge fees of £12 and £15 respectively on endowment-linked loans if they earn no commission. "A realistic figure for the work involved would be £100," a TSB spokesman insists.

Lorna Bourke

NET MONTHLY REPAYMENTS ON 25-YEAR LOAN

	£15,000	£25,000		
	Constant	Annually revised	Constant	Annually revised
Halifax	£115.85	£109.02	£193.09	£182.00
Abbey National	£115.86	-	£193.09	-
Nat West	-	£107.18	-	£178.83
Barclays	£112.35	£105.15	£187.25	£175.25
Midland	n/a	-	n/a	n/a
Lloyds	-	£106.75	-	£176.25
Williams & Glyn's	-	-	-	£177.50
TSB	-	£107.25	-	£178.75

*Midland new rates yet to be announced.

Quick. Invest in oil shares now.

Now a true blue oil boom

IF THE Tories win today there is going to be a spectacular oil boom. The oil price has stabilised. The OPEC conference in March was in retrospect, the moment of maximum panic, and nobody talks any more about the prospect of a serious price war. But it is the prospect of continued inflation and a benign tax regime under the next Thatcher government that is encouraging the oil men to look again at the North Sea.

As one BP oilman put it: "If Mrs Thatcher wins today there will be no spare rigs in the North Sea."

The Standard, June 9th 1983
Neil Collins

Move now into quality oils

THOSE WITH an interest in increasing their stake in the quality oil stocks had better move fast, because it does now seem certain that the long bear market in the sector is over.

The oil sector outperformed the market as a whole in April and has since been moving closely in line with the major indices.

In a new monthly comment on the sector due to go out this week, brokers James Capel argue that there is a "boast of buyers" waiting for share prices to ease before coming in to the market. For that reason, they recommend that potential buyers should move in now.

They are not alone in their opinion, for the six months outlook for oil shares now appears good: the sector will doubtless see more optimistic news than bad, and this will all help sentiment.

Daily Telegraph, June 23rd 1983
Question Column, David Brewerton

'Go for the oil majors'

FOR most of the chartists the favourite sector is oils. In particular the major oil companies. "Oils are my favourite sector," comments David Fuller of Chart Analysts, who believes that at \$29 a barrel, "we've seen the lows in the oil price." The big inter-national oils are the ones to go for, he argues, over the next six to nine months. This view is echoed by Alan Thomas of Simon and Coates and John Cunningham of Investment Research.

Sunday Telegraph, June 24th 1983
Robert Tyerman

the excellent value and outstanding prospects offered by the oil share sector.

Britannia Universal Energy Trust

This Trust aims for capital growth and invests mainly in the oil sector. With the Conservative Government committed to an expansion of exploration activity in the North Sea and the rapidly improving prospects for economic recovery around the world, we believe that investors should now be building up their involvement in oil shares via Britannia Universal Energy Trust.

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If you have a professional adviser please consult that adviser about this offer.

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A prospectus will be sent and certificates issued within 21 days. Unit price and yield are published daily in the leading national newspapers. Units can be sold back to the Trust at not less than the bid price calculated to the nearest penny. The annual charge of 1.5% is included in the offer price. The annual charge is 1.5% of the Trust's value plus (VAT) which is deducted from the Trust's income. Distribution Dates: Income distributions are made on 15th September and 15th March in respect of the periods ending 15th July and 15th January. Remuneration payable to qualified intermediaries is available on request. Trustee: National Westminster Bank PLC. Auditors: Arthur Young & McClelland Moore & Co. Managers: Britannia Group of Unit Trusts Limited, Registered Office: Salisbury House, 20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 5QL, England. No. 935855. Member of the Unit Trust Association of Ireland. This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

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I require my income to be reinvested.

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FIRST NAMES (in full)

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Signature (please sign) _____
*Delete if you require an income to be paid by instalment.

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Merrill Lynch, recognised as one of the world's leading financial houses, invite individuals with \$250,000 minimum investment

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150 من الاموال

Oil unit trusts

FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

New mortgage rates

Purse strings

While it is accepted that women control the bulk of day-to-day expenditure in Britain, the extent of their importance in finance as a whole is not always fully recognized.

Family Finance, a new survey produced for IPC Women's Magazine, shows that nearly 30 per cent of married women claim to deal with most household financial matters exclusively, 75 per cent feel they should know as much about financial matters as men but women are unlikely, in their opinion, to be given the right advice.

The survey accentuates the need for financial institutions to recognize the importance of women to their business and to keep in touch with them.

Family Finance can be obtained from Mr David Brown, IPC Magazines Ltd, Lavendon House, Lavendon Street, London SE1 0PP. The cost is £240 for the first copy and £50 for each additional copy.

Retirement package

Woodwich Equitable building society has got together with Trident Life to produce an attractive package for the person who wants to save for retirement through a building society.

The scheme is available to anyone who is self-employed or is not in pensionable employment and offers the benefits of full tax relief on premiums and a much higher return from the building

society investment than the individual could obtain by direct investment.

Premiums paid will be invested with the Woodwich at 1 per cent below the mortgage rate and this also takes into account the annual management fee to Trident. For example, anyone paying premiums today would earn 10.3 per cent on their investment in the Woodwich compared with 7.25 per cent (net of basic rate tax) by investing direct. In addition they would get full tax relief on contributions.

US fund offer

IF&G, the unit trust managers, are launching an American Smaller Companies fund for which Mr Richard Angus and Mr Paul Nix, the managers, hope to spot smaller companies which will become the household names of American manufacturing and service industries. The initial 50p unit offer price closes on July 22.

Guaranteed bond

A guaranteed income bond from Lloyd's Life is paying 8.1 per cent net of basic rate tax over four years. Unlike building society investments, the interest rate is fixed for the term. Both income and return of capital are guaranteed with a minimum investment of £1,500 and a maximum of £25,000.

Above the average

Coventry Building Society is offering up to 8.75 per cent, basic rate tax paid on larger than average investments. Minimum investment in the new Money Maker account is £2,500 which earns 8 per cent; at £5,000 the interest rises to 8.25 per cent, 8.5 per cent for sums of £10,000 to £20,000, above which interest is 8.75 per cent. One month's notice of withdrawal is needed to avoid an interest penalty.

Lambeth Building Society is paying 9.1 per cent for investments of £500 or more, with, again, one month's notice of withdrawal required. If you can give six months' notice, the rate is 9.25 per cent on investments of £250 or more.

Rolling up and in

Vanbrugh Currency Fund has launched new capital growth shares where the income is rolled up to increase the value of the shares by the accumulated income. The existing income shares will still be available for investors requiring a regular dividend. An investment in these shares at their launch two years ago would have grown by 48.3 per cent if all dividends had been reinvested. Holders of the income shares will be able to convert them to the new "rolled-up" shares free of charge before September 22. The new shares will be available until July 6 at an initial offer price of £1 with a reduced initial charge.

Leaflet on jobs

A new leaflet from the Department of Employment lists all special employment and training measures available, including the Youth Training Scheme, the Young Workers' Scheme and the Part-Time Job Release Scheme for those wanting early retirement. The booklet is available from Jobcentres and unemployment benefit offices.

Advice from America

A new American growth trust from Oppenheimer, the fund managers recently taken over by Mercantile House, will have the advantage of interest advice direct from New York from Oppenheimer's own team of investment managers.

In 1980 and 1981 Oppenheimer's Target Fund topped the performance tables for US mutual funds (the equivalent of UK unit trusts) with growth of 168 per cent to 288 per cent in sterling terms.

"Similarly the Oppenheimer Special Fund has been the top performer over the last 10 years to March 1983 while the Regency Fund, launched in January of this year, has already appreciated by more than 70 per cent", Mr Christopher White-Thomson, Oppenheimer's UK chief Executive, said.

Portable pensions

A portable pension scheme designed specifically for business graduates has been launched by Save & Prosper. "Our new scheme overcomes the nightmare of the early leaver syndrome whereby every time someone leaves a job, he receives a frozen pension which is inevitably eroded by inflation by the time it is paid out in retirement," Mr Tony Daggart, Save & Prosper's sales director said.

Employers make contributions to the graduate's S & P plan, rather than to a company scheme. The employee can make additional voluntary contributions. Money is invested in any of a wide range of S & P funds.

Pegasus revised

Scottish Widows has updated its Pegasus Pension Plan by changing the style of the contract and introducing greater flexibility.

The main difference is that it produces a cash sum at retirement with a guaranteed annuity rate on retirement. If Inland Revenue limits are not exceeded, the cash can be used to produce any combination of retirement benefits including tax-free cash, single life pension and post retirement widow's pension.

Contributions can be increased or reduced at any renewal date and pension contributions can be suspended. The minimum annual contribution is £250 and a number of loan and loanback facilities are available.

Home banking

A tie-up between the Nottingham Building Society and Bank of Scotland gives consumers a taste of things to come with home banking and shopping.

The scheme, called Homelink, operates through British Telecom's Prestel system, and allows the customer to conduct a wide range of transactions on his television screen. Details of the customer's Nottingham Building Society account and Bank of Scotland account can be called up on the screen with all other home shopping and Prestel services.

Mr John Webster, managing director of the building society said: "Homelink brings the future to homes and businesses about five years before anyone expected it."

House prices up 6pc

House prices rose by an average of just over 6 per cent in the first half of this year, according to a survey by Anglia Building Society.

Although the new higher mortgage interest rate and lengthening mortgage queues are now causing market pressure to ease a little, Mr Peter Moreton, Anglia's chief surveyor, still expects house prices to rise faster than inflation over the year as a whole.

Partnerships

New capital scheme offered by Coutts

One of the big problems facing all professional partnerships, be they solicitors or estate agents, is finding ways of introducing new capital into the business. Inflation and capital taxes have made the problem more acute and when senior partners retire and want to take their capital out, it is often difficult for their successors or other existing partners in the firm to find the wherewithal to plug the gap.

Coutts & Co, the upmarket subsidiary of National Westminster, which numbers a fair proportion of professionals among its 50,000 customers, has now come up with a scheme to tackle this problem.

It is offering unsecured loans of up to £30,000 for the purchase or refinancing of equity in partnerships, on terms of up to 25 years.

Flexible

The cost of the loans is 2 per cent over base rate with a minimum of 7 per cent and repayment is flexible; either in regular or irregular instalments, a capital sum at the end of the term, or a combination of these.

The scheme is aimed at the bigger firms with more than ten partners and more than £250,000 of capital although the bank will consider similar loans for partners in smaller firms.

For loans over £30,000 Coutts may require some kind of security, subject to negotiation and in all cases life cover is required.

Coutts has also drawn together the facilities it offers to partnerships which include free personal banking for individual partners - not to be sniffed at considering Coutts normally requires £1,000 minimum balance on current account for free banking.

Cheques

One innovation is a facility allowing reference numbers to be written on cheques and entered on customers' narrative bank statements. This is aimed at helping firms with book-keeping by making it easier for them to track down transactions satisfied with cheques.

Unit trusts

Oil sector bounces back but fails to regain its glamour rating

Energy unit trusts have been surging ahead for the past few weeks. Anyone who bought at the end of February before what promised to be a sticky Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' meeting in March will have fared well - particularly if they picked either of the two front-runners: the Target Energy fund or Britannia Universal Energy.

The rapid rise in fortunes, it must be said, comes after two grim years when worldwide recession and falling oil prices destroyed the former glamour oil stocks on both sides of the Atlantic.

Most unit trust investors who bought at the peak will not have seen their money back yet. Should they hold on or sell out while the going is good?

Top of the pile is Target Energy manager Mr Stuart Bottomley who remained fully invested even at the bottom of the market. "Two things have happened," he says, "the £29 a barrel price for oil has been seen to stick and there has been a general re-rating of oil shares after the over-reaction earlier this year."

"The key thing now is an upturn in world trade. I was very optimistic at the beginning of the year, but I am feeling a bit more cautious now."

"We could see a weakening of the oil price sometime during the summer which could set the sector back a bit. I am not really pessimistic."

"I think there could be some steam left in the sector. I am particularly keen on the United Kingdom onshore exploration companies and the number of successful wells being drilled in southern England now," he says.

The leading British oil companies have had a huge rise in the last few weeks - from a low point of 695 at the end of February the FT actuary's Oil Index has now risen to over 1000. The performance of shares like BP and Shell has been behind the rise in the unit price of Britannia Universal Energy. Mr Ian Forsyth, Britannia's manager says: "12 per cent of our portfolio is in these two stocks. I think that the oil price has stabilized now and that there is still plenty of scope for

re-rating the oil sector. "If you consider that the present Opec quota of 17.5 million barrels a day compares with 30 million in 1979 that means there is the potential for a large pick up in demand."

Most analysts pin their hopes on an upturn in world trade after recovery in the US economy. Mr Kean Seeger of investment managers Whitechurch Securities says: "We could see a genuine increased demand for oil following the large increase in retail sales in the US which could signal the upturn in world trade. I have been advising investors to buy the oil funds through the spring."

It is unlikely that the oil sector will regain its former glamour rating unless there is a dramatic, and at the moment unforeseen, upturn in price and demand for oil.

Investors who have held on through the downturn may find their patience rewarded over the next few weeks but should, by the autumn, be thinking of selling and putting their money elsewhere.

But by no means everyone is as enthusiastic. Mr Nigel Foster, who runs the Save & Prosper fund says if oil shares have had a good run, but could well underperform the market over the next year or two even though the market over the next year or two even though share prices are still well below their peak.

However, Mr Richard Henderson believes investors should hold on for a while yet. "Because oil stocks have been out of favour for so long many institutional investors are relatively underweight in that sector and are still buying," he says.

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Oil invested unit trusts			
	25-5-83	29-3-83	
Target Energy	94.3p	44.3p	+108.2%
Britannia Universal	50.4p	51.7p	+22.4%
Energy	45.3p	51.5p	+14.3%
Lloyds Bank Energy	45.3p	51.5p	+14.3%
Save & Prosper Energy	128.9p	143.1p	+11.0%
Henderson O & A	72.5p	81.3p	+12.1%
Resources	14.1p	14.8p	+4.7%
Energy			

*all in old price

Margaret Drummond

Benefits

Earnings ceiling raised for pensioners

Aside from the news of the general rise in benefits which is to take place next November, last week's announcement from the Department of Health and Social Security brought several other crumbs of comfort.

For many, an additional boost comes through the raising of the limit on the amount which they can earn when they are getting benefits of one kind or another.

By far the biggest group which stands to gain is retired people. At present, they are allowed to earn just £57 a week. When they earn above this, their pension is cut. From November, the earnings limit becomes £65, an extra £8 a week.

Considering that just two years ago the figure was £52 a week, and had been the same for three years, this sign of continuing movement must be a welcome one. Still, most pensioners are of the opinion that there should not be an earnings limit on their pensions at all.

The Government has also said that it would like to see the rule go, but only when economic circumstances permitted. In the meantime, any movement, however small, must therefore be a step in the right direction.

What is the situation now, and what will it mean from November?

Now, the single pension is

£32.85 a week. Earnings below £57 do not affect this in any way. Earnings of £61 a week cut the pension by £2, and as earnings increase beyond this, the pension is cut further on a 10p for 10p basis. A weekly income of around £92 is enough to cut it completely.

From November, the pension will be £34.05. Using the same formula, but basing it in the new £65 level, the pension will not be lost until earnings are £101 a week.

Where a woman is under pension age, her husband's wages can cut into any extra - pension he gets for her as well as his own pension. At present a married couple's pension of £32.55 is lost when earnings go over £112 a week. From November, when the pension will be £34.50, the amount needed for the pension to be lost will be about £122. This rule applies to men aged between 65 and 70, and women

between 60 and 65. Over those ages earnings, however high, do not affect the pension at all.

The £65 earnings, some things can be taken away. These include "reasonable" work expenses - trade union subscriptions, fares to and from work, and the cost of overalls and materials.

If no meals are provided at work, 15p can come off the total for each meal that is taken at work.

On top of this, the cost of having someone left at home looked after can also be taken away when wages are being worked out for earnings rule purposes. Income tax cannot be.

For self-employed pensioners, profits for the accounting period agreed with Inland Revenue are turned into earnings by averaging them as a weekly figure.

Although in numbers, more pensioners will benefit from the lifting of their earnings limit, some others will also be better off because of a similar change. These people getting sickness or invalidity benefits.

Anyone receiving one of these benefits is allowed to take on part-time work of a "therapeutic" nature, provided their doctor approves and the DHSS agrees. The current limit here is £20 a week. This is to go up to £22.50 a week from November.

Ian McDonald

TOO MANY INVESTMENTS HAVE TOO MANY CATCHES.

You'll be delighted to hear that you'll miss out on a great deal if you invest in the new PGA Maximum Investment Bond.

That is you'll miss out on the catches that snag so many investments which, on the face of it at least, are similar to our new Bond.

Nasty shocks like a whole range of hidden charges.

Heavy penalties if you opt out early.

And, worse, perhaps not as much profit as you'd hoped.

Thanks to the PGA Maximum Investment Bond, you don't have to put up with catches any more.

Because with the Maximum Investment Bond there are no hidden charges.

No withdrawal penalties imposed by PGA. (The Inland Revenue, however, will reclaim some or all of the tax relief you have received if you cash in your Bond during the first four years.)

And there's every possibility of you being delighted with the rewards of the MIB offers.

For example: although investment growth rates can fall as well as rise, on an assumed equal growth rate of 8% a man aged 50 eligible for tax relief who invested £10,000 in our Bond would get £15,218 after 5 years. 9% more than he could expect from a traditional single premium bond.

After the full 10 year term he'd be 13.8% better off

with more cash or income, or both, that he could use as the foundation for a financially sound retirement. And that's cash or income completely free of tax.

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At PGA we've made a reputation as the financial pioneers with a talent for introducing innovative products

that have helped thousands of people make the most of their money.

A reputation backed by one of Britain's leading assurance companies: Phoenix Assurance plc.

And now, with the Maximum Investment Bond, you can benefit from the growth and security of one of the most valuable investments yet designed.

Find out how the catch-free investment can help you, clip the Freepost coupon today.

Please send me more information on the catch-free PGA Maximum Investment Bond.

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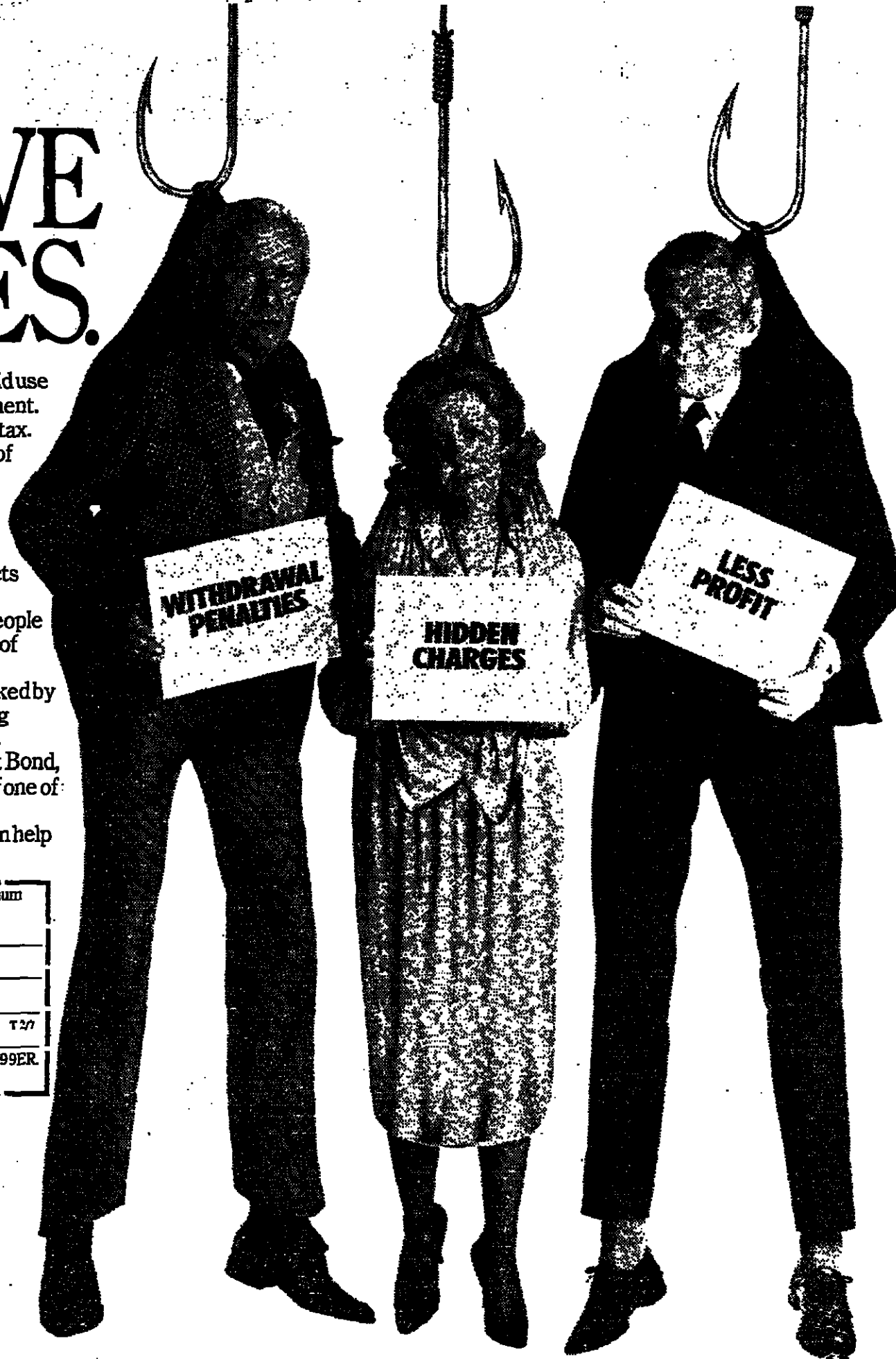
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FAMILY MONEY

General trusts

Incisive form book

Wood Mackenzie's *Investment Trust Annual* becomes more incisive every year. In the latest edition the brokers look at general trusts which, despite the move towards specialization in recent years, still account for two thirds of the sector's assets.

To outsiders, the general trusts look like an amorphous, indistinguishable and undistinguished mass.

Not so, say the brokers. They have identified the top and bottom performing trusts, in asset terms, last year, on the one hand Greenfriar, whose total return on net assets amounted to 43.4 per cent; and Moorside, which produced a return of only 2.8 per cent.

As the extensive analysis of portfolio content and policy elsewhere in the annual reveals, Greenfriar has a high proportion of small companies.

while Moorside has traditionally been heavy in the depressed energy sector.

But even among the more general "general" trusts differences in performance have been dramatic. Wood Mackenzie concludes that investors should do some homework before they put their money into the sector, to identify what they expect to happen and to look for a management group whose philosophy fits their own.

And even then, says analyst Mr Robin Angus, the trusts are not lockaway. "You had to watch them like hawks", in case they change their policy, and be prepared to sell when you have made a reasonable profit.

The latest in a steady trickle of business expansion funds is launched this week by Guinness Mahon, the investment management subsidiary of merchant bankers Guinness Peat.

The company's Business Expansion Fund offers the possibility of an exciting gamble, especially to higher-rate taxpayers with some spare cash. But will it work?

The business expansion scheme is the successor to the business start-up scheme introduced by Sir Geoffrey Howe in 1981.

The expansion ingredient was added in this year's budget and is enshrined in the 1983 finance legislation.

It is a system for channelling money to ambitious but cash-hungry companies at the same time as giving big tax breaks to investors.

Government blessing is also

Investment

An exciting gamble to help business expand

evident in that many of the tedious restrictions surrounding the old business start-up scheme have been removed.

Under the new scheme individual British investors receive relief at their highest tax rate (including any investment income surcharge) on a maximum annual investment of £40,000 guaranteed at least until the tax year 1986/7. So the true cost of a maximum investment to a 75 per cent taxpayer would be only £10,000.

However, it is worth stressing that tax relief can be slow in

coming through and if the investment is cashed within five years the Revenue will want to claw it back anyway.

There is nothing to stop a private investor finding his own favourite entrepreneur and investing the money direct. What Guinness Mahon claims to provide is the expertise to sift the real opportunities from the duds.

Peter Underhill will be responsible for recommending investments in the Guinness Mahon scheme. His experience

is that the throw-out rate of potential investments is enormous with only one in 25 propositions from entrepreneurs being accepted.

Minimum investment in Guinness Mahon's Fund is £5,000. There is a stiffish management fee of 7 per cent, so a £5,000 investment will cost £5,402, including VAT on the fees. But that is before tax relief, and there is no annual management fee to worry about.

The Guinness Mahon fund and similar schemes cannot invest in public companies, those quoted on the USM, or certain commodity or financial companies.

Guinness Mahon expects that by next April it will have invested all the £2.5m it hopes to raise under the fund; this is important for tax reasons. The fund offer closes of July 29.

Short-term funds

Schroder offers roll-up to smaller investors

Schroder Wagg has decided that the Inland Revenue is going to leave the "roll-up" funds for the time being; and that if it does more than move against them - in the next budget, for instance - the legislation is not likely to be retrospective. So it is making the Schroder Money Funds, formerly available only to corporate investors, available to individuals as well, providing they have a minimum of £10,000 to invest.

The funds - there are four of them, denominated in sterling, dollars, German marks and Swiss francs - are based in Bermuda and managed out of Jersey. They invest in short term bank deposits only, and all the interest earned is reinvested, to be distributed eventually as capital gains. That makes them very attractive for high taxpayers, particularly if they can use the £5,300 per annum capital gains tax exemption.

The management of the funds is conservative (it does not invest in longer-term investments, for instance), so their performance is likely to be relatively stable. All the same, the sterling fund has achieved a return of 12.47 per cent per annum (equivalent to 17.81 per cent per annum grossed up for a basic rate taxpayer) over the period since September, 1980, when it was established. Interest rates are lower now, of course, but the performance is still likely to better the mainland equivalent.

Mr Douglas Austin, of Schroder, says the funds are suitable for people who know they will have liabilities to meet in two to three months' time, or who want to keep money in a form in which it is readily available but earns a good return.

Adrienne Gleeson

FAMILY MONEY MARKET

Banks
Current account - no interest paid.
Deposit accounts: Midland, Barclays, Lloyds, Natwest 6 per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. Monthly income account Natwest 9 1/2 per cent. Fixed term deposits £2,500-£25,000 - 1, 3 and 6 months 8 1/2 per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays. Other banks may differ.

MONEY FUNDS
Fund Name Rate Telephone
Adrian Hunt 10.06 01 838 8970
monthly income 9.02 01 838 8980
Bank of Scotland 9.78 01 586 2777
Britannia 9.78 01 495 6534
Midland 9.37 01 708 6936
S 3 Prosper 9.21 01 388 4000
Schroder Wagg 9.23 01 238 0233
Sanco 7 day 9.23 01 238 0233
Simco 9.23 01 238 0233
Tubert & Riley 9.24 01 238 0232
Tubert & Riley 7 day 9.25 01 238 0232
Tyndall 7 day 9.25 0272 732241
Tyndall 9.10 0272 732241
UDT 7 day 9.13 01 623 3020
Western Trust 9.13 0752 251151

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts - interest 3 per cent, first £70 of interest tax-free.
Investment Account - 10 1/2 per cent interest paid without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £200,000.

National Savings Certificates 25th issue
Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 7.51 per cent, maximum investment £5,000.

National Savings Income Bond
Min investment £2,000 - max. £200,000. Interest - 11 per cent variable at six weeks notice - paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 or 6 months notice - check penalties.

National Savings 2nd index-linked certificates
Maximum investment £10,000, excluding holdings of other issues. Return tax-free and linked to

changes in the retail price index. Supplement of 0.2 per cent per month up to October 1983 paid to new investors; existing holders receive a 2.4 per cent supplement between October 1982 and October 1983 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 Retirement Issue certificates purchased in July 1978, £174.87 including 4 per cent bonus.

Guaranteed Income Bonds
Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity. 2 & 3 years Canterbury Life 8.5 per cent min investment £1,000. 4 and 5 years Abbey Life 7.9-8.5 per cent, min investment £1,000.

Local authority yearling bonds 12-month fixed rate investments
Interest 10 1/2 per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Local authority town hall bonds
Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). 1 year Worthing 9 1/2 per cent. 2 years Kidderley 10 1/2 per cent. 3-5 years Kidderley 11 per cent. 6 years Hyndburn 11 per cent. 7-10 years Worthing 11 per cent. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-650 7401, after 3 pm). See also on Prestel no 24808.

Finance for industry
Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3-4 years, 10 1/2 per cent; 5 years, 11 per cent; 6-10 years, 11 1/2 per cent. Further information from FFI, 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 (01-828 7822).

Finance house deposits (UDT)
Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deductions of

tax. Five-Fifty scheme: 6 months 9 1/2 per cent; 1 year, 10 per cent; 2 years, 10 1/2 per cent.
May RPI: 333.9 (The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month).

EDITH plc

At the Annual General Meeting of EDITH plc on 28 June, resolutions were passed declaring a final dividend of 1.5p net per share. This makes a maintained total of 2.3p on a share capital increased by last year's 1-for-25 capitalisation issue, and is an effective increase of 4%.

Net Revenue before Taxation rose from £3,268,000 to £3,390,000 in the year to 31 March 1983. In his Chairman's Statement published with the Annual Report and Accounts, Viscount Caldecote said:

"In today's conditions the Trust's policy is to put more emphasis on investment in companies with growth prospects. This will restrict our income at least for the time being and make a further effective increase in the dividend next year unlikely. For this reason your Directors have decided this year to break with the tradition of an annual capitalisation issue. However, they do expect to be able to maintain the current rate of dividend on the present share capital."

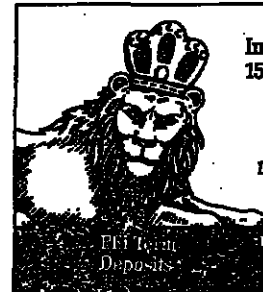
At the Annual General Meeting he said:

"So far in the current year, both revenue and new business are ahead of the same period last year. Another of our customers is planning to join the USM shortly."

EDITH, an approved Investment Trust managed by ICFC, purchases minority stakes in unlisted companies, enabling shareholders to raise sufficient cash to meet tax and other personal liabilities without having to sell control.

Copies of the Report and Accounts and further information are available from:

EDITH The Secretary, EDITH plc, 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8XP. Telephone: 01-828 7822.



Deposits of £1,000-£50,000 accepted for fixed terms of 3-10 years. Interest paid gross, half-yearly. Rates for deposits received not later than 15.7.83 are fixed for the terms shown:

Term (years)	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Interest %	10 1/4	10 3/4	11	11 1/4	11 3/4	11 3/4	11 3/4	11 3/4

Deposits to and further information from the Treasurer, Finance for Industry plc, 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8XP (01-828 7822 Ext. 367). Cheques payable to "Bank of England, a/c FFI". Finance for Industry plc.

Today's Rates 10 3/4% - 11 1/4%

Even more interest.

From 1 July 1983
CHELTHAM GOLD
8.25% net 11.79% gross

Still no strings.

On 1 July our interest rates increased by a full 1%. So Cheltenham Gold, which pays extra interest annually on £1,000 or more, is now an even better deal. Even if you fall below £1,000, you still earn 7.25% net* 10.36% gross*.

And you still get 100% freedom to withdraw money immediately without any advance notice or loss of interest.

Cheltenham Gold Monthly Interest

Invest £5,000 or more in a Cheltenham Gold Monthly Interest Account and we pay you the new higher rate of interest monthly, direct to your bank. Better still, add the interest to your account each month and you'll earn the annual equivalent of **8.57% net* 12.24% gross***

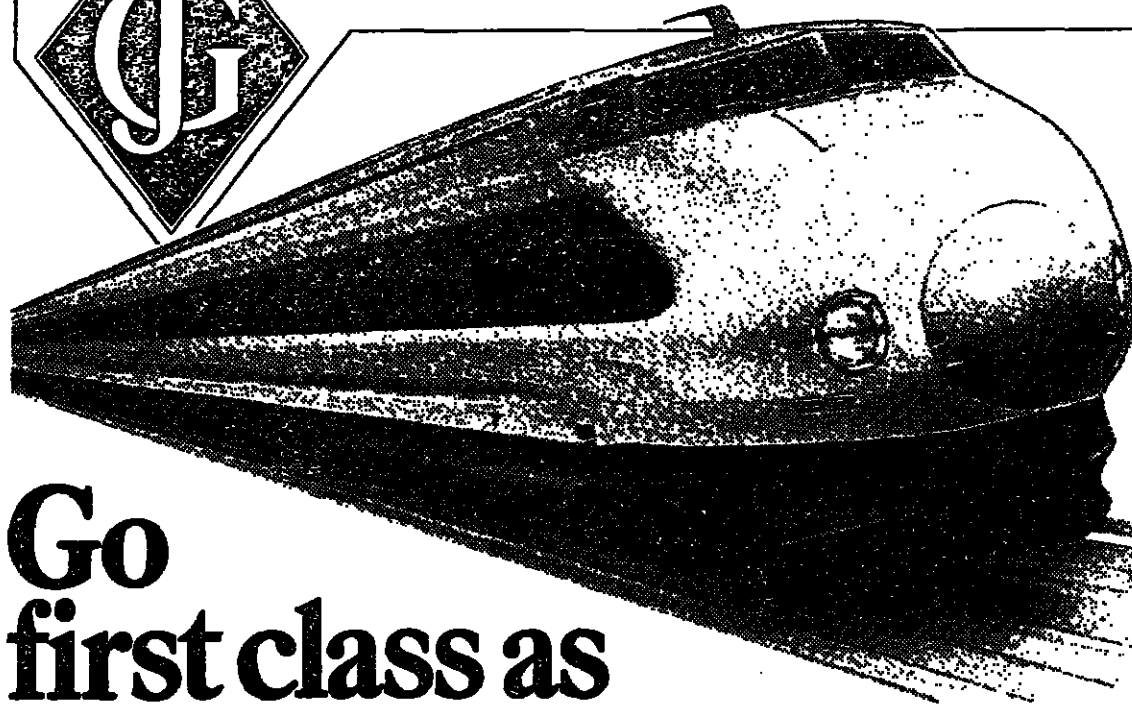
At your branch. Or by post-Free.

You'll find your local branch in Yellow Pages. If there's no branch handy, use the coupon to open either of the Cheltenham Gold Accounts by Post. You can pay in or withdraw as you like. We pay the first class postage. Whichever way you choose, it's your first step to even more interest, but still with total freedom.

To: C & G Building Society, PO Box 124 FREEPOST, Cheltenham, Glos., GL53 7PW.
I/we enclose £..... to open a Gold By Post Account (Minimum £1,000, Maximum £30,000). Joint Account £60,000.
I/we enclose £..... to open a Gold Monthly Interest Account By Post (Minimum £5,000, Maximum £30,000). Joint Account £60,000. ☐ Please send more details.
Full name(s) Mr/Mrs/Miss..... (Block Capitals)
Address.....
Postcode..... RT2

C&G Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society
Chief Office: Cheltenham House, Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Glos. GL50 3JR. Tel: 0242 36161.
Member of the Building Societies Association. Over 150 Branches and Agents. Assets exceed £1,132 million.
*Gross rates. The rate of interest paid on the Cheltenham Gold Monthly Interest Account may vary from that paid on the Cheltenham Gold Account. *Gross equivalent for basic rate taxpayers.

Govett Japan Growth Fund



Go first class as Japan pulls away

The signals tell us that the Japanese economy is once again on the move. Two major factors will give impetus to increased growth in 1983 and beyond:

* Exports are strengthening as the world economy recovers.
* Domestic demand has increased, thanks to lower oil prices and inflation.

This is why we believe that this new unit trust, Govett Japan Growth Fund, is being launched at very much the right time. The aim of the Fund is to produce capital growth through investment principally in Japan and in companies with substantial interests in Japan.

Growth ahead

Modern Japanese industry has thrived on pioneering new ideas and turning them into commercial export successes quickly. So as demand worldwide increases, Japan will benefit.

In Japan itself, prospects look equally good. The oil price, inflation and interest rates are all down. Demand from Japan's 100 million plus consumers is growing. (Even in recession-hit 1982, the Japanese economy grew by 3% in real terms.)

All these growth signals should be reflected by rises in the Tokyo Stock Market. The undervalued yen, too, increases the scope for profitable investment as it strengthens against sterling.

The best way into Japan

This new Fund is an ideal way for private investors to share in the future of Japan without the problems of dealing directly with an unfamiliar and distant market.

The Fund will actively seek new investment opportunities at all times and across all sectors of the Japanese market. It is now specifically looking to invest in companies of all sizes in three exciting sectors:

Information technology
Computers, word processors, facsimile systems, digital telephone exchanges, optical fibre systems - Japan is bidding to be as successful in these areas as in videotape recorders and hi-fi equipment.

Pharmaceuticals
The average age of the Japanese people is rising, and demand for pharmaceutical products

should grow faster than the economy. Research and development will enhance the industry's ability to compete with its western rivals.

Consumer-related stocks
Many shares in this sector look undervalued, particularly those serving the recovering home consumer market. Such companies should prosper as their under-used assets come back on stream.

Investment management of the Fund will be handled by a team of four in John Govett, who travel regularly to Japan and the Far East. They have close contacts in Japanese financial and industrial concerns, and a productive working relationship with leading Japanese securities houses and the principal London stockbrokers specialising in Japan.

John Govett - 50 years of independent investment management

For over 50 years, John Govett & Co. Limited has concentrated exclusively on investment, with no conflicts of interest. The Group manages or advises unit trusts, investment trust companies, pension funds and charities as well as private portfolios.

Investment success in the Far East

John Govett was early to identify Far Eastern opportunities. Over the past 15 years, the Group has built up significant interests in the Far East, and Japan in particular. Currently, funds under management or advice of John Govett & Co. Limited have £90 million invested in the Japanese market.

How to invest

To invest at the initial offer price of 50p fill in the Application Form below and send it with your remittance to reach the Managers by 22nd July 1983. Applications received after the close of the initial offer will be allocated units at the offer price ruling on the date of receipt. Minimum initial investment is £500. Thereafter, you may buy or sell units to any value provided that your holding is not reduced below £500.

If you invest £2500 or more during the initial period you will be given a free bonus of 1% in extra units at the Managers' expense.

You should remember that the price of units, and the income from them, can go down as well as up. You should regard your investment as long-term.

You will be sent your contract note within 3 days, and your unit certificate within 6 weeks. You may also buy units by telephoning the Managers on 01-588 5620.

APPLICATION FORM
Govett Japan Growth Fund
To: John Govett Unit Management Limited, Winchester House, 77 London Wall, London EC2N 1DH. Tel: 01-588 5620.

I/we enclose a cheque for £..... (minimum £500; minimum £2500 to qualify for 1% bonus) payable to John Govett Unit Management Limited for the purchase of units in the Govett Japan Growth Fund at the initial offer price of 50p. I am/we are over 18.

This offer closes on 22nd July 1983. Thereafter units will be allocated at the offer price ruling on the date of receipt. In the initial offer period investors of £2,500 or more will be given, at the expense of the Managers, a bonus of 1% in extra units (to the nearest whole unit).

Please tick for ☐ Automatic reinvestment of income in further units ☐ Details of Share Exchange

Surname..... Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms./Title.....
Forenames in full.....
Address.....
Postcode.....
Signature(s).....

In the case of joint applications (maximum 4), all applicants should sign and print their names and their addresses on a separate piece of paper.

GENERAL INFORMATION
The Fund is authorised by the Department of Trade. Managers: John Govett Unit Management Limited (A member of the Unit Trust Association). Investment Advisers: John Govett & Co. Limited. Trustee: National Westminster Bank PLC.

Share Exchange Write or telephone for full details of how to exchange existing shares for units on favourable terms. Prices and yields: The estimated gross yield at the initial offer price is 11.3% per annum. Bid and offer prices, and the gross yield, will be quoted daily and published daily in the Financial Times. Charges and commissions: From the initial charge of 3% (included in the offer price of units) the Managers will pay commission to authorised agents. Rates are available on request. An annual management charge of 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the Fund is deducted from gross income.

Income distribution: Net income will be distributed on 28th February and 31st August every year with a report on the progress of the Fund. The first distribution will be on 28th February 1984. If you would prefer to have your net income automatically reinvested in units of the Fund, please tick the box on the Application Form. Selling units: To sell back your units, simply sign your Unit Certificate on the back and return it to the Managers. You will receive a cheque for the bid price value, normally within 10 working days.

150 من الامتحان

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

ICI may seek £500m cash

ACCOUNTANTS: Dealings begin, Monday. Dealings end, July 15. Contingency, July 18. Settlement day, July 20.

With the group's borrowings now up to 40 per cent of shareholders' funds, it is unlikely the group will turn to the banks for further funding. It is unlikely ICI to mark people's cards about the second-quarter figures and prospects like it has done so. Mr Wansley said.

The rumours surrounding ICI cast a shadow over the rest of the equity market and flushed out some big sellers on the last day of the account. GEC lost 4p to 166p as more than 4 million shares went through the market at around the 162p level, while BET plunged 17p to 243p as a line of 2.5 million shares was sold at 245p. The market was awash with rumours that one of the overseas trusts had been liquidated, but this was discounted in most quarters later.

Last week, ICI raised the ceiling of its permitted borrowings in the US to \$300m and the warm reception was given to the probably in the right issue £400m raised by Bechem and Rio-Tinto-Zinc recently - all plus signs that a cash call would be well received.

The only factor missing from yesterday's shakeout in the shares was the American investors who have swooped at the least sign of weakness in the price. The rumours surrounding ICI cast a shadow over the rest of the equity market and flushed out some big sellers on the last day of the account. GEC lost 4p to 166p as more than 4 million shares went through the market at around the 162p level, while BET plunged 17p to 243p as a line of 2.5 million shares was sold at 245p. The market was awash with rumours that one of the overseas trusts had been liquidated, but this was discounted in most quarters later.

In the event, the FT Index had its worst day so far this account with a loss on the account of 4.3. Elsewhere, BOC Group, the industrial gases and healthcare group, dropped to 215, before closing at 221p - a net fall of 1p

following The Times report that the group's recovery in the US remained mixed. Falls were also seen in Bechem 6p to 350p, GKN 4p to 166p, Glaxo 15p to 88p, Grand Metropolitan 9p to 349p and Fleetway 13p to 716p.

Glaxo put up a better performance with dealers reporting gains of up to 2p in longs on yield considerations.

Broker Capel-Cure Myers has decided to use its expanded retail section to launch a glossy quarterly magazine Retail, designed to bridge the gap between the City and retail magazines. Subscriptions are £150 a year and the first print run was for 2,000 copies.

above their normal entitlement. The group's recovery in the US remained mixed. Falls were also seen in Bechem 6p to 350p, GKN 4p to 166p, Glaxo 15p to 88p, Grand Metropolitan 9p to 349p and Fleetway 13p to 716p.

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Profit taking also lopped 4p from Sangers at 36p. Earlier this account, the group announced the acquisition of the rest of its pharmaceutical interest in Northern Ireland. Ward in the market suggest that several more acquisitions may be announced this year.

Engineer John Brown lost 2p to 23p, still awaiting details of the gas turbine sell-off to Hawker Siddeley. Brown said a comment would be made when talks ended.

RECENT ISSUES

Adams Lenses 10p Oct (88a)	98
CPM Computer 5p Oct (7a)	131-65
Caster (18i) 25p Oct (60a)	131-65
Cifer 10p Oct (100a)	136-4
Cobra Emerald NPV (63a)	113
Emulationary Gry 25p (60a)	712
Get (Coall) 10p Oct (100a)	1164-2
Gilbert House law 10p Oct (17-a)	23-1
Good-Winner 25p Oct (37a)	73-1
Goed Laurence 5p Oct (100a)	128
Juliana's Hidge 2p Oct (7)	325
K. P. Group 3p Oct (115a)	117
M.B. Computing 10p Oct (75)	75
Murphy's Coast 3p Oct (98)	119-4
Murray Electronics 25p Oct	98
Oxipon Publishing 3p Oct	383
Reviser 5p Oct (7a)	35
Staines Metal 25p Oct (120a)	115

Issues price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities. * 1p tender

Some people will go to any lengths to mess about in straw boaters

Simon Barnes



Balance tips in favour of Eton

More cricket, page 19

Medley duo can hit world record note

Liem left in clear

The remaining berth in the semifinals is likely to go to South Korea's Kim Yun Ja. However, she has to overcome an array of British Indonesian and Chinese players to stop her. In the women's doubles, which attracted only 14 entries, Britain's Nora Perry and Jane Webster, the top seeds, should enjoy a relatively easy passage into the finals.

Perth, Australia (APP) — Australians have responded instantly to a request for funds to keep afloat the Australia II challenge for the America's Cup. Generosity has been most noticeable from Melbourne, Sydney and Perth since the appeal for one million dollars was launched only three days ago.

Jolly broily boater weather glimpsed through ultra-posh lenses. Photographs by Brian Harris.

[illegible]

Sunday

**Andrew Partridge and Deltha McLeod in David Leland's play
Rhino (ITV 9.30pm)**

TV 25

Deltha McLeod in David Leland's
Rhino (ITV, 9.30pm)

CHANNEL

2.00 Irish Angles: Commemorate north and south of the border

2.30 Report to the Nations: Newsday, chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality, and senior colleagues face a barrage of informed critics. In the minority

3.55 Right to Reply: Chairmen viewers state their case

4.25 Master Bridge: Elevator of the international television featuring Omar Sharif as Markos and other top players; 4.55 News and weather

5.00 Union World: How us in Belfast have survived sectarian strife. A review by Bob Graves, followed by studio discussion

5.30 Face the Press: with Howard. In the hot seat Nigel Lawson, the new Chancellor of the Exchequer

6.00 Look Forward: Chairman Markos and other top players

6.15 Brazilian Football: The glorious years of the sport are surveyed. In course, gets a special mention

7.10 Music in Time: The 18 years since the hit of the influence of music. Tonight's country on composers Doris Ovorak, Sibelius, and Vaughan Williams are with James Galway on flute

8.15 Tell The Truth: Sport-impoter game. Play Brian Hayes, Libby Jay Claire Rayner and John Chairman: Graeme Giff

8.45 Wood and Waters: A woman comedy and a show, with Victoria Julia Walters (r)

9.20 St Cecilia Mass: Their enduring work by Hay recorded in 1982 in the baroque Basilica at Ottobrunen, West Germany. Soloists include Lucia Doris Correll, Horst and Kurt Moll. Ravales conducts the Bavarian Symphony Orchestra

10.40 Film: The Real Goliath: Action-filled adventure about three soldiers (Glynn Cooper, David Crawford) who fight the terrorists in the Philippines after the Spanish-American war. Ends at 12.25am

55 La Bohème
00 Acts of

Radio 1

News on the half hour until 12.10 then 2.30, 3.30, 5.00, 7.00, 10.10, 12.00 midnight (BWF/NW).
8.00 Sharp... Tony Blackburn's
Record Club... The Lenny Henry
With Andy Peebles... 7.00 Anne
Nightingale... 8.00 Alexis Korner
Sounds of Jazz... 12.00 Midweek
Jazz... 1.00 and 1.30
Radio 2... 2.00 Benny Grant... 3.00
Deth... 4.00 Something Singing
Live... 5.00 String Sound... 6.00 With a
12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

8.00am Newswatch... 9.30 Countdown
From News... 7.00 News About Africa... 7.30
World... 8.00 World News... 8.59
In Action... 9.45 Reportage... 10.00
10.15 The Pleasure's Yours... 9.00 WILF
8.00 Review of the British Press... 8.59
In Action... 9.45 Reportage... 10.00
10.15 Baker's Half-Done... 12.00
Week... 1.00 World News... 1.58
1.59 World Affairs... 2.00
Commentary... 1.55 Letters... 3.00
Hour... 3.00 The Towers of Terror...
1.59 World Affairs... 2.00
10.00 Science In Action... 10.40
11.00 Sports Roundup... 11.00 WILF
11.00 Comment... 12.00
11.30 Sounds of an English Summer...
12.00 News... 12.00 News About South
Radio Newswatch... 12.30
Verdi and His World... 1.45
1.59 World News... 2.00
The British Press... 2.15 Big Good News...
Now... 3.00 World News... 3.59
3.59 News Against the Tide... 4.00
Gore... 4.45 Letter from London...
Reflections... 8.00 World News... 8.59
Four Hours... 9.45 Letters to DHTY

AM Tunes to DHTY

HITV WEST as London area
Starts 8.00 am
Ask Opera! 11.30-12.00 Pantomime
Season... 1.00 per ticket...
University Challenge... 1.45 West

**ration Amsterdam
sh bid to stop**

Farming, 2.15 To The Wild Country
 Film: Stranglehold (Peter Sellers)
 Starter Wagon (black comedy), 1.15
 Price and Princess of Wales, 1.15
 7.15 Magnum, 8.45-9.15 Tales of
 Unexplained, 10.55 Drive Detective
 11.55 Couchpotato

STV WALES As HTV West
 2.15 pm
 Mickey, 2.45-3.15 Film: Turpin's
 Greatest Adventure.

GRAMPIAN As London
 Starts 9.45
 Upon a Time... Man, 10.15-11
 Sailing of the Irish Home, 11.30
 Parents and Teenagers, 1.30
 Farming Outlook, 2.00 Gardening
 2.30 Sunday Special, 2.45 Prunty
 Southampton, 3.15 Film: Anastasia
 (Nicola Bergman), Girl poodle as
 daughter of the late Russian Czar
 5.30 Prince and Princess of Wales
 Cardiff, 7.15 Magnum, 8.45-9.15
 of the Unexplained, 11.55 Reflection
 10.55 City of Angels, 11.50 City

*More regional variations on this
 facing page*

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN
 1 Search, 2Blink and white, 3YR

